United Nations S/PV.6613

Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6613th meeting

Wednesday, 14 September 2011, 10.20 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Salam	(Lebanon)
Members:	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Barbalić
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	China	Mr. Yang Tao
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Briens
	Gabon	Mr. Messone
	Germany	Mr. Wittig
	India	Mr. Kumar
	Nigeria	Mrs. Ogwu
	Portugal	Mr. Moraes Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Pankin
	South Africa	Mr. Sangqu
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Tatham
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Letter dated 13 September 2011 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/566)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

11-49638 (E)

Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Letter dated 13 September 2011 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/566)

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2011/569, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Portugal.

I wish to draw the attention of the members of the Council to document S/2011/566, which contains a letter dated 13 September 2011 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, France, Gabon, Germany, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 2007 (2011).

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 10.25 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.6614

Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6614th meeting

Wednesday, 14 September 2011, 10.25 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Salam	(Lebanon)
Members:	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Barbalić
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	China	Mr. Li Baodong
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Bonne
	Gabon	Mr. Messone
	Germany	Mr. Wittig
	India	Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri
	Nigeria	Mrs. Ogwu
	Portugal	Mr. Moraes Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Pankin
	South Africa	Mr. Sangqu
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

The situation in Somalia

Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia (S/2011/549)

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11-49644 (E)

Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Somalia

Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia (S/2011/549)

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): Under rule 37 of the Security Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Somalia to participate in this meeting.

On behalf of the Council, I welcome His Excellency Mr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, and request the Protocol Officer to escort him to a seat at the Council table.

Mr. Ali, Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, was escorted to a seat at the Council table.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Augustine P. Mahiga, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, to participate in this meeting.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite His Excellency Mr. Boubacar Gaoussou Diarra, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia, to participate in this meeting.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite His Excellency Mr. Pedro Serrano, Acting Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2011/549, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on Somalia.

I now give the floor to Mr. Mahiga.

Mr. Mahiga: Please accept my congratulations, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council on behalf of your country, Lebanon. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the presence of The Honourable Prime Minister of Somalia, His Excellency Mr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali.

Thank you, Mr. President, for giving me the opportunity to present the report of the Secretary-General (S/2011/549) to the Security Council on the latest developments in the Somalia peace process. At the outset, I would like to pay tribute to the Council for its continued support to the peace process in Somalia. Since I last briefed the Council, on 10 August from Mogadishu (see S/PV.6599), there have been positive developments in Somalia, even as difficult times still lie ahead. Let me begin with the humanitarian crisis, which is still hitting the world headlines.

On 5 September, a sixth district in the Bay region was declared a famine zone, in the area controlled by Al-Shabaab. More people are at immediate risk. Assistance is now coming in from the international community. The African Union held its first-ever pledging conference on 25 August, raising $350 million in cash and in kind. But more is needed to cover the next five months. The moral authority of the Council and the entire international community needs to be brought to bear to facilitate life-saving assistance in the famine-stricken areas of Somalia and to address the overall challenge of drought in the Horn of Africa.

On the political side, the peace process has just taken a great step forward. The game has fundamentally changed. In the spirit of the Transitional Charter and the Djibouti Agreement, the long-awaited consultative meeting on ending the transition in Somalia was convened successfully in Mogadishu from 4 to 6 September. While the situation remains tenuous and unstable, holding the meeting in Mogadishu was itself a notable achievement and a testimony to the much improved security situation in the capital. Two months ago, the Islamist insurgency group Al-Shabaab held much of Mogadishu, and threatened the rest. A week ago, we held a meeting with all stakeholders at the Somali Parliament building, in the heart of downtown Mogadishu.

The consultative meeting brought together high-level representatives of the Transitional Federal Institutions, the regional States of Puntland and Galmudug, the Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama'a and most international partners. The meeting in Mogadishu was a milestone in the peace process, but the light that the road map now sheds on our path forward shows clearly

just how far we have to go. We have now officially launched the implementation of the transitional tasks that are to be completed in the next 11 months, which offers a real opportunity to end the transition in a responsible and productive manner. It is different from previous efforts because this time there is broad-based consensus and political commitment to end the transition.

In addition, there are agreed upon benchmarks and timelines to be fulfilled. In the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS), we have established a dedicated unit to manage the implementation mechanisms. The implementation will be undertaken under the close supervision of the monitoring mechanisms, which are both regional and international in composition.

The constructive atmosphere at the consultative meeting also enabled UNPOS to facilitate an agreement between the regional States of Puntland and Galmudug after several days of fighting at their common border in the town of Galkayo.

The meeting immediately followed Somali Transitional Federal Government President Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed's historic trip to Puntland on 28 August. It is our hope that the groundbreaking visit will herald a new chapter in relations between the Transitional Federal Government and the regional administrations and set a positive tone for national reconciliation and improved outreach with a wide range of other entities and individuals across Somali civil society, both inside the country and in the diaspora. This issue will be further discussed and reflected in the next constitutional consultations, to be held in another location inside Somalia, which will include a wide cross-section of civil society groups.

In my political advocacy for a more inclusive peace process, I have reiterated the presidential statement issued by the Council on 11 May, which indicates that those groups and individuals in the armed opposition should renounce violence and join the peace process (see S/PRST/2011/10). The changing security dynamic may help us in that regard.

As we move forward on the implementation of the road map, the international community must redouble its engagement and strike that most delicate of balances between inducement and compliance. Here I need to be crystal clear: the benchmarks and timelines enshrined in the road map will simply not be realized in the absence of commensurate resources. Those providing oversight must play their role effectively to ensure that the implementation is done on schedule. We are looking into a range of measures to be invoked in case of non-compliance.

I have consistently reminded the leadership that future assistance will be contingent upon the timely implementation of the road map. Ultimately, though, the Somalis need our assistance right now. The international community must immediately provide resources to the Transitional Federal Institutions and other implementing partners in order to ensure that we capitalize on the substantial political investment that has earned us all this moment of optimism and hope.

The improvement in the security situation in Mogadishu is an important step towards stabilizing all of Somalia. Security is a central element of the road map, as a secure environment is a precursor to the effective implementation of other transitional tasks. The withdrawal of Al-Shabaab from Mogadishu has offered the Government an opportunity to expand territory under its control and enhance its legitimacy by delivering services to its population. We must prevent warlords from re-emerging in Mogadishu by not allowing a security vacuum to develop. The prospect of peace and stability in Mogadishu has also attracted 400,000 internally displaced persons fleeing Somalia's drought-stricken areas under Al-Shabaab control, which is creating additional pressure on the still-fragile Government to provide security and support for the new arrivals.

In addition to those security challenges, the extremists are likely to resort to terrorist tactics in Mogadishu and elsewhere. Forces of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Government forces must be equipped to respond to this new threat, which will require agility, enhanced mobility, expanded surveillance and a greater tactical capability around Mogadishu and beyond. The military plan must be accompanied by a civilian strategy designed to stabilize and rehabilitate Mogadishu. Together with the Transitional Federal Government and the United Nations country team, we have prepared the Mogadishu stabilization plan, which requires $5 million in initial funding. Somalis must see a tangible difference between their lives under Government authority and their lives under Al-Shabaab.

As I pay tribute to the African Union and AMISOM, I wish to recognize the presence of the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Ambassador Boubacar Diarra.

I would again like to take this opportunity to commend the Governments of Burundi and Uganda for their continued and unflinching support to AMISOM and their readiness to provide additional troops to it.

The report of the Secretary-General expresses support for the rapid deployment of a guard force as part of AMISOM. That force would provide protection for AMISOM civilians and United Nations personnel and assets, relieving pressure on the main AMISOM force and enabling it to focus on its core mandate. The guard force is essential for enabling my Office to facilitate the effective implementation of the road map. I would therefore welcome the Council's support in that regard. UNPOS and the United Nations Support Office for AMISOM are ready to expedite the deployment of staff to Somalia, especially in Mogadishu, as accommodation and logistical support is made available.

As I said at the outset, this is a remarkable moment for Somalia. The situation remains fragile and tenuous, but we have a golden opportunity to end the transition and stabilize Somalia. I appeal to the Council to send an unequivocal message of encouragement to the Somali leaders while simultaneously putting them on notice that there can be no return to political bickering. There will be no more extensions and we must all work together to end the transitional period by August 2012. The seeds of hope and progress have begun to sprout, but they will need to be carefully and generously nurtured if they are to bloom into sustainable peace.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I thank Mr. Mahiga for his briefing.

I now give the floor to Mr. Diarra.

Mr. Diarra (*spoke in French*): At the outset, I should like to congratulate you, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the Council. I also express my respect and gratitude to His Excellency the Prime Minister of Somalia.

I should like to thank you, Mr. President, on behalf of the Chairman of the African Union Commission, His Excellency Mr. Jean Ping, for this opportunity to inform the Security Council regarding recent developments in Somalia and, in particular, our efforts to support the Transitional Federal Institutions in Somalia in strengthening security with a view to creating conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian aid and the implementation of the political road map to bring the transition to an end.

I also convey the regret and apologies of Commissioner Lamamra for his inability to participate in this meeting today. Commissioner Lamamra will attend the summit to be held on Somalia on 23 September.

I wish to reiterate the African Union's appreciation to all members of the Security Council for their support for our efforts to reverse the insecurity and instability in Somalia. Over the past two years, and especially since the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) was deployed, we have received crucial support from the Security Council. That precious support has contributed to the positive, tangible results that we are seeing on the ground in Somalia.

I am sure that Council members are well informed of the recent positive developments in the political and security situation in Somalia. Before turning to those developments, let me address the humanitarian situation, which remains a cause of great concern for all of us.

Millions of Somalis are suffering from hunger and malnutrition. For its part, the African Union took the initiative to organize a donors conference in Addis Ababa on 25 August in order to mobilize resources for the victims of the famine in Somalia and the Horn of Africa. More than $350 million were mobilized. The African Development Bank alone pledged $300,000. An additional amount of $28 million was also pledged in kind, including food, medicine and other forms of aid. While it recognized the crucial need to respond to the current humanitarian emergency, the conference also called on the international community to demonstrate renewed commitment to and support for medium- and long-term strategies to ensure food security and mitigate the negative impact of climate change on the African continent.

Somalia is at a crossroads. That country, which has enjoyed no peace or security for 20 years, is regaining stability little by little. On the political front, the African Union is particularly encouraged by the speed and determination with which Somali political

leaders, through an inclusive and consensual approach, are working towards the implementation of the Kampala Accord signed on 9 June under the aegis of President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda.

We also welcome the outcome of the consultative meeting held in Mogadishu from 4 to 6 September 2011. This meeting was very significant as it brought together the Somali Government, the transitional Parliament, Puntland, Galmudug and Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama'a, and thus allowed for agreement to be reached on tasks whose completion would allow the Somali people to strengthen the legitimacy of State institutions through free and transparent elections and establish the rule of law needed for lasting peace to take hold.

The African Union calls on all Somali stakeholders, including the Somali diaspora, to provide the necessary support to the Transitional Federal Institutions in this regard. The African Union will continue to support the efforts of Ambassador Mahiga to fully implement the road map so that a new political order can be inaugurated on 20 August 2012, as we have so long called for and which will meet the aspirations of the Somali people.

On the military and security fronts, the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and AMISOM control almost 95 per cent of the capital, Mogadishu. With the retreat of Al-Shabaab, AMISOM forces, in collaboration with Somali Government forces, now control the city and are deployed in all districts of Mogadishu, with the exception of *Daynile-Huriwaa*. AMISOM will deploy forces in that area as soon as additional troops are made available.

These gains represent an important victory. This is the very first time since the fall of the Siad Barre regime that a central administration has been able to take control of Mogadishu. We must build on this progress and extend the authority of the TFG beyond Mogadishu, create the space needed for dialogue and reconciliation, allow the TFG to interact with local and regional administrations, and create an enabling climate for political efforts stemming from the road map.

The humanitarian crisis facing the country has led to additional obligations for AMISOM. The Mission must now ensure the security of camps for internally displaced persons, of which there are many in Mogadishu; assist in the delivery of humanitarian aid; and — a new responsibility — ensure the protection of the many dignitaries visiting Mogadishu since its liberation. It is therefore crucial for the international community to transform this moment of hope in the country by providing to the Somali Government all the support it needs to meet its commitments. It is also imperative that the recent security gains made in Mogadishu following the withdrawal of Al-Shabaab be strengthened through an appropriate increase in resources for AMISOM.

This is the thrust of the report submitted by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, which includes the recommendations made by the technical consultative workshop on AMISOM convened from 17 to 18 August, with the participation of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the permanent members of the Security Council, the European Union, countries contributing troops to AMISOM and many other partners.

The report authorizes support for the following measures, including first and foremost the acceleration of the deployment of additional troops in order to strengthen AMISOM and swiftly achieve the authorized strength of 12,000 personnel pursuant to the United Nations support package. African countries have made necessary troops available. Djibouti, Sierra Leone and Guinea have already expressed their willingness to contribute troops. The main obstacles for those countries include a lack of military equipment and predictable measures to ensure that such equipment is paid for.

Secondly, the United Nations support package must be strengthened pursuant to resolutions 1863 (2009) and 1964 (2010) in order to fill the gaps identified in the next few months, in the understanding that AMISOM is a multidimensional mission with military, police and civilian components. Support priorities should include independent support for troops; reimbursement for contingent-owned equipment; the provision of appropriate force enablers, including among others utility and attack helicopters; maritime capacities; military engineering equipment, and support to the Mission's civil component.

Thirdly, a police unit constituted in Mogadishu to support the rule of law and order and to allow AMISOM to concentrate on its military tasks must be deployed.

Fourthly, a battalion-size protection force must be created within AMISOM and under its leadership in

order to assist the deployment of civilian personnel and guarantee the security of the African Union, the United Nations and the Transitional Federal Institutions in Mogadishu. That force should supplement the 12,000 military personnel authorized by the United Nations.

Despite the progress made in Somalia, the African Union wishes to emphasize that Al-Shabaab remains capable of destabilizing and undermining our efforts. Consequently, we must continue to focus on the big picture and maintain a far-reaching view that goes beyond Mogadishu. I therefore wish to underscore the validity of the other requests made to the Security Council, including those contained in the text of the African Union Peace and Security Council communiqué of 15 October 2010, in particular with respect to measures necessary to prevent the entry of foreign elements into Somalia. We must prevent the theft and transport of cargo containing weapons and ammunition for the armed groups carrying out attacks against the TFG, AMISOM and civilian populations.

Looking to the future, we believe it important that the Security Council, in its wisdom, reiterate its commitment to deploying a peacekeeping operation in Somalia to take over from AMISOM and immediately set a timeline for that deployment. In that respect, the Commission proposes that the United Nations Secretariat undertake a joint mission to assess the progress made to date by AMISOM on the ground and to identify all additional criteria to be fulfilled and the relevant resources to be provided by the United Nations in order to prepare for the transformation of AMISOM into a United Nations peacekeeping operation.

In conclusion, I reiterate that the African Union and all peace-loving Somalis and Africans thank the Security Council for its tireless and courageous efforts to settle the situation in Somalia. I also wish to express our gratitude to the Secretary-General, to the various departments of the Secretariat, in particular the United Nations Support Office for AMISOM (UNSOA), for the exceptional quality of their partnership with the African Union and AMISOM. The results achieved on the ground are due in large part to the unfailing support of UNSOA.

On the ground, I also welcome the high quality of relations with Ambassador Mahiga, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia. The political and military progress achieved is the result of daily close cooperation with the IGAD facilitator for Somalia.

In that regard, new dynamism is necessary to maintain the strategic partnership between the African Union and the United Nations. The African Union Commission strongly urges the Council to take into account in its future resolutions the Commission's contributions and updates on the situation, in particular the requests set forth above, as well as the conclusions of the mini-summit on Somalia to be convened in New York on 23 September, at the initiative of the Secretary-General.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I thank Mr. Diarra for his briefing.

I now give the floor to Prime Minister Ali.

Mr. Ali (Somalia): It is an honour for me to be here before the Council today and to update members on the developments that have recently taken place in Somalia. This is the first time I have had the opportunity to address the Security Council since my appointment as Prime Minister in June. In the intervening period, the humanitarian, security and political landscape has altered, and it is my intention to demonstrate the steps that the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) is taking to address the new challenges and opportunities that face us today.

Let me begin by welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on Somalia (S/2011/549) which is now before the Council and which notes the positive political and security developments that have occurred in the past three months. A month and a half after my appointment as Prime Minister, Al-Qaida-affiliated extremist insurgents were forced to withdraw from the capital under pressure from the Somali National Army, with the support of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

On 10 August, the Special Representative of the Secretary General, Mr. Augustine Mahiga, updated the Council (see S/PV.6599) on the situation in the capital following this withdrawal by Al-Shabaab, noting that this presented both opportunities and challenges for the Transitional Federal Government as we strived to consolidate security in the city, provide public services to the population and tackle the enormous humanitarian emergency enveloping our country. We in Somalia recognize, as the report of the Secretary-General notes, that failure to do so would fatally

undermine the legitimacy and popular support that the Government currently enjoys. My Government is doing the best it can within our limited resources to exploit those opportunities.

Immediately following the extremists' withdrawal, a ministerial committee was set up, visited vacated areas and came up with plans for dealing with the situation. The immediate concern was to re-establish security and fill the vacuum with legitimate State authorities. A state of emergency has been declared in these districts, as well as in camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs) across the city, in order to prevent crime as well as to deter the return of warlords and militias.

The Cabinet has established two task forces, one with the responsibility to provide armed escort to humanitarian convoys, and the other — a mobile patrol unit — to tackle crime. District security committees have been established in all 16 districts of the city and are engaging local communities to determine their priorities and needs. The security forces continue to search for weapons and booby traps in the neighbourhoods formerly occupied by the extremists. Once those have been cleared, citizens will be encouraged to return to their homes.

However, we must remain realistic as we enter the next phase. Stabilizing security inside the capital has been a determined focus of my Government over the past month. The plan for Mogadishu is starting to work. We cannot, however, afford to be complacent. We are aware that pockets of insurgents remain in the city who are intent on launching a campaign of terror against the population using suicide attacks and improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Already, our security and intelligence agencies have foiled a number of such attacks. The two largest IDP camps, Babaado and Rajo, which provide shelter and food for tens of thousands of the most needy, have both been targeted. Last week an IED was discovered planted within the Rajo camp. Two weeks earlier, a man wearing a suicide vest and disguised as a woman was arrested before he could detonate his explosives at the Babaado camp. A car bomb was also recently found and defused at the populous Kilometre 4 junction. At the same time, it will be imperative to ensure that the Somali State is able to keep clan rivalries and warlordism at bay.

The Secretary-General's report notes that the TFG and Somali security forces are currently overextended. It is essential that we work together to enlarge and improve the Somali National Army and the Police Force of the Somali Government as a matter of grave urgency. In order to consolidate and build on the security gains, it is essential to enlarge the force of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) — which has sacrificed so much and worked so hard — in the near future with the required air and maritime force components that it badly needs. To support this united effort, I look forward to announcing the national security and stabilization plan in the near future, which is a key part of the road map.

The fact that the extremists would target innocent and hungry Somalis is an indication that they care nothing for the fate of the citizens of the country. Somalia is on the frontline in the global defence against the plague of terrorism. The terrorists are looking further afield. They have sought to export their noxious extremism across the region, recruiting and sponsoring acts of terror in countries such as Uganda, where last year they murdered 76 innocent people. It is a well known fact that they are focusing their recruitment and radicalization efforts on Somali diasporas in Australia, Canada, Europe and the United States of America.

As the world marks the ten-year anniversary of the 11 September 2001 attacks here in New York and in Washington, D.C., it is critical that we learn the lessons of the past. The struggle to stabilize Somalia and deny terrorists a foothold on the Horn of Africa is one in which we all have a stake, and therefore one in which we all have responsibilities. At this juncture, I would like to thank the Council for the generous support it has given to both the transitional federal institutions and to the AMISOM peace support mission, without whose assistance much of the progress that I have outlined here would not have been possible. I also join the Secretary-General in paying tribute to the Governments and people of Burundi and Uganda for their continued sacrifice and commitment to the cause of peace in Somalia, as well as in extending condolences to the families of those who have lost their lives in this worthy cause, including Somali forces.

The support of the international community is critical if we are to continue to protect civilians, ensure the safe and timely delivery of aid and prevent the extremists from using our territory as a base from which to plot terror attacks. The immediate deployment of the extra 3,000 AMISOM troops already authorized

by the Council is urgently needed to prevent a security vacuum in the areas of Mogadishu vacated by Al-Shabaab. As the Secretary-General notes, without international support for equipping and outfitting additional troops, troop-contributing countries will continue to face difficulties in deploying their forces in a timely manner. Going forward, more will be required if we are to expand the zone of safety that has been created in the capital to encompass the rest of the country. In that regard, I ask the Council to urgently reconsider the recommendation of the African Union Peace and Security Council to increase the mandated strength of the AMISOM force to 20,000 troops from the current ceiling of 12,000, and to provide it with key enablers and force multipliers, including air and maritime components.

On the humanitarian front, as all are aware, the United Nations has declared famine in a sixth region of Somalia, which means that up to half the population, or 4 million souls, are now facing the prospect of starvation. Many of those continue to come to the capital seeking refuge. The United Nations estimates that over half a million have already arrived. To deal with this situation and to oversee the delivery of humanitarian assistance, a high-level Cabinet committee has been created and, as per its recommendations, the Government has established several camps to house and feed them. A disaster management agency, comprising members of civil society, has also been established. We are working with United Nations agencies — such as the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Food Programme — to synchronize our efforts to deal with the famine.

On behalf of the entire Somali nation, I wish to express my gratitude for the pledges of assistance that have been received from Governments and humanitarian agencies around the world. It is a matter of urgency that we seek to better coordinate and increase the humanitarian relief. There can be no competition, only concerted effort, in a humanitarian crisis of this scale, between what are known as traditional and non-traditional donors. All estimates predict that we will see the crisis deepen in the country and the suffering of my kinsfolk worsen. I have welcomed the proliferation of support and donors who are seeking to help. It will be essential to ensure that we play our part, within our limited capacity, in securing and helping the delivery of assistance to a larger number of Somalis who are in such dire need.

We are indebted to the United Nations and its agencies, which have so far delivered tons of food to Mogadishu and other areas. Coupled with our measures to ensure security, those deliveries have had a considerable impact in Mogadishu and the surrounding areas. According to a recent report by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit, cereal prices for August in the Banadir region, although still unacceptably high, have come down by up to 20 per cent compared to previous months.

The greatest need, however, continues to be felt within areas still under the effective control of the extremists, where access by international humanitarian agencies is severely restricted. The insurgents are also hampering the freedom of movement of millions who are trying to reach help either in Mogadishu or in neighbouring countries. Without urgent interventions to change the situation, it is estimated that up to three quarters of a million people may perish in the next few months. Although normal to above-normal rainfall is expected to return in the next three months, that is unlikely to result in a significant easing of the crisis in the short term, as the harvest would not be expected until February. In any case, the production from the short rainy season only accounts for a third of total annual cereal production. The displacement of farmers by the current famine will only further reduce the expected yield. In fact, the United Nations has indicated that it expects the famine to spread to the rest of the South by the end of the year.

It is therefore critical that we accelerate efforts to reach those in Al-Shabaab-controlled areas before the crisis spirals out of control, threatening the security and political gains made. The international community must urgently reinforce our efforts to extend the zone of safety for aid workers beyond Mogadishu and into those areas. In the meantime, my Government will continue to work closely with humanitarian agencies to collect and share information on needs. We stand ready to cooperate with all actors to ensure that aid gets to the most critically affected populations, wherever they may be.

I now turn to the political progress. In May, we informed the Council of our intention, together with the United Nations Political Office for Somalia, to hold a consultative meeting in Mogadishu with the aim of

generating consensus on how to bring the transition process to a successful conclusion. At the time, there existed critical disagreements among the transitional institutions on how that was to be achieved. However, with the generous help of both the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia, Augustine Mahiga, and the President of Uganda, His Excellency Mr. Yoweri Museveni, we were able to bridge the gaps and to come to a common agreement on the way forward in the form of the Kampala Accord. As a result, it is today my privilege to report that the consultative meeting on ending the transition was successfully held in the capital just over a week ago, and concluded with the adoption of a road map, complete with specific timelines and benchmarks, to ensure the return of a permanent Government in August next year. The conference was the culmination of Somali-led reconciliation initiatives dating back to the Arta Declaration of May 2000, which established the Transitional National Government — the first Somali Government since 1991 to secure a measure of international recognition, enabling Somalia to reoccupy its seat at the United Nations and in regional bodies.

Over the course of more than a decade, the transition process has expanded to include many who had initially opposed it, bringing on board the Somalia Reconciliation and Restoration Council in 2003 to form the Transitional Federal Government, as well as the moderate wing of the Islamic Courts Union in 2008 and the Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama'a, two years later. It is therefore clear that while the peace process has not always been smooth, it has nonetheless proven to be inclusive and locally driven.

Critically, my Government is committed to implementing the road map and delivering the priority tasks of security, the Constitution, reconciliation and good governance by 20 August 2012. In the run-up to the conference, President Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed and I visited Puntland and Galmudug. Those visits created a strong foundation for good working relations between the Federal Government and regional administrations. We have signed an agreement with the President of Puntland, which will help us further develop the relationship. Further steps to enhance reconciliation efforts at the national, regional and local levels will be made in the coming months.

We in Somalia are grateful for the encouragement and support of the international community in the peace process, which has been critical to ensuring its progress. We welcome the many statements issued by the Council over the years expressing support for the Somali people as we strive to achieve our dream of lasting peace. In the next phase, my Government will work hard to come together to make progress on the road map so that we can hope to see united and committed international support to the Transitional Federal Institutions. A resource mobilization plan, agreed with our international partners, will generate the momentum to drive forward the implementation of the road map.

The principles underpinning the road map agreement in Mogadishu earlier this month were to foster inclusivity and build Somali ownership. It will be essential to follow-up the Mogadishu agreement with a meeting, also in Somalia, that reaches out to a wider group of stakeholders, incorporates the views of more Somalis from around the country and maintains momentum towards implementing the road map.

I also welcomed the formation of a technical committee, which will work from Mogadishu, to support the implementation of the road map. I look forward to ensuring that future engagement with international partners takes place in Somalia, as far as possible, to help us meet the array of road map targets.

As required by the road map, we are now in the process of identifying and appointing a committee of experts to oversee the drafting of a new constitution. They will soon embark upon consultations with all relevant stakeholders, including civil society and human rights organizations, to resolve any contentious issues. We are also liaising with the parliamentary leadership to ensure that the Transitional Federal Charter is amended to provide a legal framework for the constitutional process.

Transparency is a key element to providing effective and legitimate governance. That is why we have embarked on the process of identifying nominees to the Interim Independent Anti-Corruption Commission, as well as formulating a national fiscal budget for the period 2011-2012. In the meantime, with the assistance of our partners in the United Nations and in the international community, we will continue to provide services to the population as our current capability allows. Those include, as has been mentioned, the provision and protection of humanitarian aid, policing and crime prevention and

modest infrastructure development, such as road repairs, street lighting and the refurbishment of schools, markets and hospitals. We are also working with our neighbours in the region to address the root causes of desertification and famine, as articulated in the Nairobi action plan adopted at the recent summit on the Horn of Africa crisis.

Today, Somalia faces two alternative futures. One entails humanitarian relief being stepped up and growth in the AMISOM international peace support force so that it can support the Somali Police and Army in building on the security gains made so far. At the same time, that will enable embarking on a political journey to revitalize and strengthen the Somali State. The alternative, however, spells dire consequences for the State. Worsening famine, together with the cholera and measles epidemics, will destroy the country's social fabric and ruin economic livelihoods for a generation. All the while, seriously overstretched TFG and AMISOM forces are unable to stop Al-Shabaab from regrouping. Allied with the enemies of peace in Somalia, they attack the fragile security in the capital and fatally undermine all efforts to rebuild the Government.

A week ago, I signed the road map on behalf of the TFG — in cooperation with the Transitional Federal Parliament, the Puntland State of Somalia, Galmudug and Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama'a — because I am confident that we can lead Somalia towards growing social, economic and political stability. However, Somalia's future hangs in the balance. We therefore cannot take this journey alone. As I stand here today and pledge my commitment to delivering the priority tasks laid out in the road map, I ask for the international support necessary to deliver the humanitarian relief and security that are vital components of stabilizing Somalia.

Let me conclude by saying that, while efforts to ameliorate the effects of famine will continue to demand our attention in the short term, we will not lose sight of the fact that the progress made on the security and political fronts is laying the groundwork for a secure Somali State that is representative of and capable of delivering to its own people. With the increased and concerted commitment of the international community, I am confident that Somalia will overcome present difficulties and take the path towards peace and stability.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I thank the Prime Minister of Somalia for his statement.

I shall now give the floor to members of the Council.

Sir Mark Lyall Grant (United Kingdom): This is an important opportunity for the Security Council to discuss Somalia. I would like to thank the Secretary-General for his latest report (S/2011/549) and for the briefing from his Special Representative Augustine Mahiga. We greatly appreciate the work of the Special Representative, his team and all the United Nations agencies active in Somalia. I would also like to welcome to the Council this morning His Excellency Prime Minister Abdiweli Mohamed Ali of Somalia. I thank him for his important comments. I would also like to thank Mr. Boubacar Diarra for his contribution to the debate today.

I would like to make four key points — on the humanitarian situation, the political situation, security and the United Nations presence in Mogadishu.

First, the situation faced by many Somalis today is one of almost unimaginable suffering. Twenty years of civil war and its consequences have left an appalling legacy, one that is being most acutely felt by the Somali people — with 4 million needing emergency assistance and 750,000 facing famine. Tens of thousands have already died. Thousands more have been displaced. The United Kingdom stands shoulder to shoulder with the Somali people at its time of acute need.

We have already provided $80 million of support for the relief effort in Somalia, providing relief to over 1 million people. It is vital that we, the international community, do all that we can to support those parts of Somalia where suffering is the worst. I call on others to give timely and generous support. The crisis will not end in the short term. It will go on into 2012. We need to ensure that our relief efforts are similarly sustained.

Secondly, what greater incentive could there be than the prospect of famine stalking the land for Somalia's political leaders to demonstrate their commitment to deliver a better future for the Somali people? To that end, the United Kingdom welcomes the adoption of the road map to end the transition, as well as the work by Ambassador Mahiga to facilitate its adoption. However, we should remember that the road map was required precisely because of the lack of

progress on the transitional tasks. The parties to the road map therefore need to ensure that the key tasks set out in it are delivered on time and that the transition comes to a successful conclusion in August 2012. That will of course require the support of the international community, and we are ready to give it. But above all, it requires the political will and commitment of Somalia's leaders. I welcome the Prime Minister's encouraging comments this morning on that score.

I urge the Transitional Federal Institutions of Somalia to demonstrate that they are furthering reconciliation efforts across the country. We expect the Transitional Federal Institutions to demonstrate improved accountability and transparency, in particular around the allocation and management of resources, to remain united and to refrain from any further internal disputes. There should be no doubt that the Security Council will stick to its commitment to making future support contingent on progress against the road map.

Thirdly, I would like to welcome the recent successes of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Somali National Security Force in Mogadishu. I pay particular tribute to the continued commitment and bravery of the Ugandan and Burundian troops. Al-Shabaab's almost complete withdrawal from Mogadishu is a mark of their success, but it also raises new challenges for AMISOM. As ever, it is vital that we give AMISOM the support it needs to deliver greater protection to the people of Mogadishu. The United Kingdom contributed over $5 million earlier this year, and now provides more than 50 per cent of the funding for the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of AMISOM. My Government calls on other international partners to step up and make contributions without caveat to the AMISOM Trust Fund.

Finally, I welcome the continued efforts to increase the United Nations presence across Somalia, and in Mogadishu in particular. The United Nations has a vital role to play in supporting the Transitional Federal Institutions with expertise and technical assistance in delivering on their road map commitments. It will need to do so in a coordinated and integrated manner, working as one with the other United Nations agencies and partners both in Nairobi and on the ground in Somalia. I would also like to welcome moves by other members of the international community to increase their presence in Mogadishu, and reiterate my Foreign Minister's commitment to opening a British embassy in Mogadishu once local conditions allow.

Now more than ever, the United Nations, the international community and the Transitional Federal Institutions must come together to demonstrate our collective commitment to ending the transition and to building stability in Somalia. The lives of thousands of ordinary Somali men, women and children depend on it. We cannot let this opportunity slip, and we cannot fail the Somali people at their time of need. We must hold ourselves and each other to account and deliver real progress over the coming months.

Mr. Sangqu (South Africa): My delegation thanks the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Augustine Mahiga, for presenting the report of the Secretary-General (S/2011/549) and for his update on the political developments, as well as the security and the humanitarian situations, in Somalia. We also welcome the presence of His Excellency Mr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, Prime Minister of Somalia, and Ambassador Boubacar Gaoussou Diarra, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission for Somalia, and we thank them for their encouraging statements this morning.

South Africa welcomes the political progress made in the implementation of the Kampala Accord signed on 9 June, and commends the efforts of Special Representative Mahiga and President Museveni to facilitate this important agreement. We welcome the appointment of Mr. Ali as the new Prime Minister of Somalia, and the approval by Parliament of the Cabinet appointed by him.

Equally commendable is the outcome of the consultative meeting held in Mogadishu from 4 to 6 September and the agreement reached by the Somali stakeholders on the road map to implement the key transition tasks over the next 12 months. We encourage all Somali's to take ownership of the road map, which sets out clear benchmarks, timelines, responsibilities, resources and compliance structures for the key priority areas that must be achieved before the end of the transition. These positive political developments are critical, as the unity of the political leadership of Somalia is indispensable to addressing the security and humanitarian challenges that confront the people of that country. We echo the call by the AU and regional leaders for the international community to provide

timely support and resources for the implementation of the road map.

South Africa commends the recent military successes achieved by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the forces of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and the subsequent withdrawal of Al-Shabaab from large parts of Mogadishu, as announced on 6 August. The tide has turned and every effort must be employed to ensure that the control of the TFG forces and AMISOM over Mogadishu is maintained and expanded.

The control of the TFG in Mogadishu has stretched the resources of AMISOM and the TFG forces. In this regard, the full deployment of AMISOM to its authorized strength of 12,000 would be critical to consolidating the military gains achieved thus far. We commend the Governments of Uganda and Burundi for their contribution to AMISOM.

South Africa fully supports the request of the African Union Peace and Security Council in its communiqué of 13 September for the United Nations to reaffirm its commitment to authorizing the deployment of a United Nations operation to take over from AMISOM in Somalia. In the meantime, we reiterate the call of the Peace and Security Council for the United Nations to authorize the enhancement of the support package provided in the areas of self-sustainment of troops, the reimbursement of contingency-owned equipment, the provision of requisite enablers, including helicopters, the deployment of formed police units, logistical support for the civilian component, as well as the creation of a guard force of 850, in addition to the 12,000 authorized personnel of AMISOM. We cannot allow a security vacuum to develop in Mogadishu. We must keep the momentum and strengthen the security capacities of the TFG forces and AMISOM to prevent any reversal of the security gains.

On the humanitarian front, we note with concern the sad and deadly impact of the drought in the Horn of Africa region, and in Somalia in particular, where an estimated 4 million people face starvation and its impact on the whole region. We call on the international community to contribute generously to the appeals funds to enable humanitarian organizations to respond adequately to the hunger crisis in the Horn of Africa region. In this regard, we commend the recent African Union pledging conference convened on 25 August, which raised over $350 million to respond to the relief effort in that region. South African continues make its contribution to the response to the humanitarian crisis confronting Somalia.

With regard to piracy off the coast of Somalia, we note the reduction in hostages and ships held. Despite this positive development, the international community must continue its efforts to holistically address the challenge posed by the scourge of piracy, including its underlying causes relating to the collapse of State authority, the illegal exploitation of marine resources and the dumping of toxic waste.

In conclusion, South Africa encourages Special Representative Mahiga to continue to work with the AU and regional leaders as we collectively seek to bring peace and stability to Somalia. South Africa appeals to the international community not to abandon Somalia in this critical period. Despite its immense challenges, Somalia today offers the international community a window of opportunity that should be exploited to consolidate the political and security gains recorded in recent times. Failure to do so and to exploit today's opportunities will merely postpone and compound these challenges in the future. The time to act is now.

Mr. Osorio (Colombia) (*spoke in Spanish*): It is a pleasure to see you, Madame, presiding over today's meeting. I take this opportunity to welcome the Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, Mr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, and to thank him for his briefing and update on the situation in Somalia and recent events there. We also welcome and thank the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ambassador Augustine Mahiga, and Mr. Boubacar Gaoussou Diarra, Special Representative of the African Union Commission for Somalia, whose briefings were most enlightening on the situation in Somalia.

Since our most recent meeting on Somalia (S/PV.6599), we have seen significant positive political developments in the area of security. The unity agreement adopted by the Transitional Federal authorities at the consultative meeting of 6 September is undoubtedly a political milestone of great importance. We would like to highlight the work carried out by Mr. Mahiga and his efforts to facilitate the consultations that led to this important agreement between the parties.

The road map adopted by the various parties and the four tasks identified as priorities in ending the transition period in 2012 constitute a solid basis for the process of stabilization and unification. The federal authorities must lead its implementation, consolidate the security gains and make progress towards the adoption of the Constitution, which should occur alongside a dialogue for reconciliation.

Transparency and good governance are also essential to national reconstruction and will help to strengthen its legitimacy and credibility and maintain the firm support of the international community. The achievements in terms of security will be sustainable insofar as the Transitional Federal Government is able to strengthen its political management.

We are alarmed by the continuing deterioration of the humanitarian situation. The news reaching us every day is truly dramatic. International agencies are reporting that that current crisis is one of the most serious to affect the region for the past two decades. It is important that we continue to work to guarantee security and access for aid organizations and ensure that aid reaches the populations most in need. We reiterate that the parties to the conflict must respect humanitarian principles, guarantee protection for the civilian population and cooperate to ensure efficient logistics.

With famine having been declared in six of the eight regions of southern Somalia, the transitional federal authorities must show that they are able to deal with the situation and that their primary goal is meeting the immediate needs of the population. We urge them to employ every means at their disposal to guarantee the security of the civilian population and do everything possible to help and protect them.

We agree with the Secretary-General that it is crucial for the international community to support the Transitional Federal Government so that it can assume its responsibility of protecting civilians and play a coordinating role in providing assistance. While the Transitional Federal Government has the responsibility of demonstrating such leadership, the United Nations and the international community must also continue to contribute so that, through a comprehensive approach, emergency assistance is increasingly linked to creating conditions conducive to sustainable development and the recovery capacity to ensure food security and livelihoods in the long term, while contributing to the development of sustainable structures after the crisis and to the prevention of future emergencies.

We must continue to strengthen State institutions, recognizing their primary responsibility in the restoration of security, political stability, the rule of law and economic development. The Secretary-General warns that, as the end of the transitional period approaches, there has been a proliferation of entities that claim to be regional administrations. This requires Organization and the international community to maintain a unified dialogue within the framework of the commitments and goals contained in the road map, and thereby prevent the fragmentation of the State and contribute to its stabilization.

The work and presence of the African Union Mission in Somalia is crucial to the stabilization of Somalia. We must therefore urgently ensure that it has the necessary resources and appropriate equipment to fulfil its mandate and improve the troops' living conditions. My country supports the efforts undertaken to that end.

To conclude, I urge the Transitional Federal Institutions to comply with the terms agreed in the road map with respect to both the principal tasks and priorities and to the deadlines and implementation mechanisms for the next 12 months. The role of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia and of the joint international coordination committee will be crucial in this regard.

Mr. Moraes Cabral (Portugal): Let me, too, thank the Secretary-General for his report (S/2011/549) and Special Representative Augustine Mahiga for his very useful briefing, and commend him and his team for their constant efforts. Allow me also to welcome the presence of His Excellency the Prime Minister of Somalia, Mr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, and to thank him for his presentation, as I thank Mr. Diarra for his contribution to today's debate.

There has been some encouraging progress in Somalia. Within the framework of the Kampala Accord, Parliament has endorsed a new Prime Minister and a new Cabinet has been appointed. The Mogadishu consultative meeting also took place and met its main objective, which was the endorsement of the road map.

Despite these important steps, there are still significant challenges ahead, as Ambassador Mahiga outlined. It is therefore essential that the Somali

institutions build on the progress achieved so far and on the existing consensus. Throughout the remaining transition period, the Kampala Accord must be implemented, as must the road map, in compliance with the agreed benchmarks and timelines. We call on the signatories of the Kampala Accord to ensure cohesion, unity and focus on the completion of the four priority tasks set out in the road map for ending the transition — security, constitution, reconciliation and good governance — so that the transitional period may indeed come to an end in August 2012.

As Portugal has stressed before, ensuring respect for human rights and paving the way for a better future for Somalis, including for their economic and social development, are also of paramount importance. We underline in this respect the very positive role that women can play in conflict resolution, and we encourage all parties in Somalia to remove obstacles and challenges to the participation of Somali women in public life. In this endeavour, it is of the utmost importance that regional and international partners continue to be committed and to lend support to the Somali people in helping it to address all the challenges Somalia faces, the most recent of which is at the humanitarian level.

We remain deeply concerned by the situation, and we are particularly distressed by its terrible impact on the lives of the Somali population, especially on children, who have been severely affected by famine. We are nevertheless encouraged by the efforts being made on the ground by all the agencies, funds, regional and local non-governmental organizations and humanitarian partners against a background of very challenging security conditions. We are also encouraged by the mobilization of the international community so far, and we welcome the holding of the summit on the humanitarian response to the Horn of Africa on the margins of the general debate of the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session. But these combined efforts will be fruitful only if the aid reaches those in real need. We therefore urge all parties and armed groups to ensure full, safe and unhindered access for the timely delivery of humanitarian aid to all persons in need of assistance across Somalia.

At the security level, the Transitional Federal Institutions should also capitalize on the recent improvements in Mogadishu by ensuring the delivery of basic services and providing good governance to all of its citizens. By doing so, it will also be honouring the efforts and sacrifices of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and of the Somali National Security Forces, which we commend.

As the context on the ground is changing, new challenges arise for the Mission and for the Transitional Federal Government. In order to respond to the immediate needs, we encourage the strengthening of the Somali National Security Forces, as the Government bears the primary responsibility for safeguarding peace and security in Somalia. This is an endeavour to which we are glad to continue to contribute, including through the European Union's training mission in Somalia.

Nevertheless, AMISOM remains a crucial element to support and protect the Transitional Federal Institutions. We therefore reiterate our support to the Mission, endorsing its mandate renewal, and echo the Secretary-General's call for the acceleration of the deployment of additional troops to fill the security vacuum created by the withdrawal of Al-Shabaab from Mogadishu. We will also favourably consider expanding the scope of its support package and the development of a guard force to provide security to personnel from the international community.

But new challenges also arise for the United Nations. In this regard, we welcome the efforts being made to fulfil the Secretary-General's commitment to the full structural integration of the United Nations family in the country in the shortest possible time frame.

Despite recent developments, the overall situation in Somalia remains fragile. It is therefore important to comprehensively address all the challenges Somalia faces at the political, security, humanitarian, human rights and socio-economic development levels. This also means pursuing our joint efforts to combat piracy through a multidimensional response to the problem.

In the strong commitment, engagement and close cooperation of all Somali parties lies the main ground for a successful path towards peace and stability in Somalia. Portugal will pursue its efforts, within the different forums, to assist the Somali people in addressing the challenges before them.

Before concluding, let me once again extend a word of sincere appreciation to the continuous engagement of the Secretary-General's Special Representative, Ambassador Mahiga, the African

Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and other regional organizations in the Somali process. In this context, we naturally share the position of the European Union that will be expressed later in this debate.

Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri (India): At the outset, I would like to join others in thanking the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Augustine Mahiga, for his comprehensive briefing on recent developments in Somalia and for the Secretary-General's report. I would also like to welcome Mr. Mohamed Ali, Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, to the Council and to thank him for his statement outlining his perspective on the situation in Somalia and the plans of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) for the future. I would also like to thank the African Union (AU) Special Representative for Somalia, Mr. Diarra, for his statement.

The worsening humanitarian situation in Somalia, caused by the famine, is cause for serious concern. As the Secretary-General's report notes, more than half of the Somali population is in the grip of this humanitarian crisis. While the international community has undertaken emergency measures to provide aid to those in need, nearly 2.8 million people are living in the hardest-hit areas controlled by Al-Shabaab, where access of humanitarian agencies is severely restricted. We urge all Somali groups to provide unfettered access to the humanitarian agencies and to facilitate the delivery of aid to all those in need. India has decided to provide humanitarian assistance of $8 million to the countries afflicted with severe famine and drought in the Horn of Africa — that is, Somalia, Kenya and Djibouti — through the World Food Programme (WFP). This is in addition to our contributions of $1.5 million to the AU trust fund for Somalia and $0.5 million to the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), both for augmenting the AU Mission in Somalia. We appreciate the key role played by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, WFP and other United Nations organizations in the delivery of humanitarian assistance. We join others in calling upon Member States to join the efforts of the United Nations and the African Union by responding positively to the humanitarian appeal.

While the international community has been battling the humanitarian crisis, there have been some positive developments on the political and security fronts. The signing of the Kampala Accord and its subsequent approval by the Somali Parliament and the formation of a new Government have imparted a positive momentum to the political process that needs to be maintained in the extended transition period. We also welcome the high-level consultative meeting on ending the transition in Somalia, held from 4 to 6 September in Mogadishu, and the adoption of a road map as a result. We reaffirm our support for this process and hope that the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) will implement the road map in a time-bound manner and complete the pending transition tasks. This alone would enable a genuine, inclusive and comprehensive national reconciliation to take place in Somalia so as to end the two-decades-long instability and insecurity.

In this connection, we appreciate the engagement of the President and the Speaker of Somalia with the international community. We also thank Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mahiga for his persistent efforts and cooperation with the Somali leaders and with the AU, the East African Community, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and other stakeholders.

The opportunity presented by the withdrawal of Al-Shabaab from Mogadishu should be utilized by the TFG to increase its effective presence all over Mogadishu through the delivery of basic services. This will not only enhance the TFG's legitimacy but also help the political process. There is an urgent need to bring AMISOM's strength to 12,000, as mandated by the Security Council. In this connection, we commend the Governments of Uganda and Burundi for their contributions to AMISOM and for the sacrifices made by their peacekeepers.

AMISOM is the mainstay of international efforts to re-establish security in Somalia. It is therefore imperative for the international community to urgently bridge the resource gaps that have an adverse impact on AMISOM's effectiveness in fulfilling its mandate. As the Secretary-General has reported, without international support for equipping and outfitting additional troops, troop-contributing countries will continue to face difficulties in deploying peacekeepers in a timely manner. Member States should contribute promptly to the United Nations and AU trust funds for AMISOM without caveats. As already mentioned, India has contributed $2 million for AMISOM

operations through the AU and UN trust funds without any caveats. We also support the extension of the mandate of AMISOM.

There is also a need to expand the TFG forces and strengthen their capacities for long-term stability and security in Somalia. New recruitments have to be undertaken and full training and proper equipment provided.

Piracy off the coast of Somalia remains a serious problem facing the international community. As at 31 August, Somali pirates held 19 ships and 405 hostages. Combating maritime piracy is therefore an important issue that is intrinsically linked to the security situation in Somalia. So far, the TFIs have not paid adequate attention to this problem. We hope that in the extended transition period, the TFIs will fully implement the benchmarks concerning piracy contained in the road map adopted on 6 September, including the adoption of a legal framework against piracy, hostage-taking, payment of ransom, the demarcation of an exclusive economic zone, the establishment of an operational coastguard, the appointment of a counter-piracy coordinator, and so on. In addition to the benchmarks in the road map, the TFIs should expeditiously implement the provisions contained in the relevant Security Council resolutions for restricting port revenues for Al-Shabaab. In this connection, we will engage constructively with the members of the Security Council on the draft resolution on a legal mechanism for the prosecution and detention of pirates. We also stand ready to help in capacity-building for the TFIs and the States of the region for effective measures against piracy off the coast of Somalia.

Further, given the growing scope and expanding coverage of the problem, the international community has to think about adopting a comprehensive counter-piracy strategy. In our view, such a strategy should involve: a United Nations-led anti-piracy force to conduct naval operations, which would help achieve greater coordination in anti-piracy operations by various naval forces; the enactment of national laws on priority to criminalize piracy as defined in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; the effective sanitization of the Somali coastline, along with the identification of safe corridors and buffer zones.

India has already taken several steps, including anti-piracy patrols in the Gulf of Aden since 2008 and has also deployed its ships in the eastern and north-eastern Arabian Sea. This has helped to neutralize several attempts at piracy. While we will continue our counter-piracy operations, there is also an urgent need for the international community to address the serious problem of hostage-taking by pirates and the consequent humanitarian problems faced by the hostages and their families. We hope that the Secretary-General's report on piracy, which is due in October, will contain concrete recommendations on all aspects of the problem of piracy, including hostage-taking and the plight of hostages.

Mr. DeLaurentis (United States of America): Let me also thank Special Representative Mahiga and African Union (AU) Special Representative Diarra for their informative remarks. We also welcome the Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia to these proceedings.

Somalia continues to present some of the most complex and urgent humanitarian, political and security concerns in Africa and the world. The Security Council should continue to pay close attention to these interwoven challenges, as we are doing today.

The United States is gravely concerned about the severe drought and humanitarian crisis in Somalia and across the Horn of Africa. More than 11 million people urgently need emergency assistance, including as many as 4 million Somalis in need of food. Inside Somalia, the famine has spread alarmingly. A sixth region has now been affected, and we expect the situation to continue to decline. Without urgent action, more than 750,000 people could die in the months ahead. We welcome the upcoming humanitarian summit on Somalia and the larger Horn of Africa region, which is to be held during this session of the General Assembly. The need is vast and the time is short.

The United States is providing approximately $102 million in humanitarian relief assistance for Somalia, and more than $600 million to the entire Horn of Africa in response to the crisis. We join the Secretary-General in calling on our fellow Member States to contribute generously to the programmes outlined in the consolidated appeal for Somalia. We must fully fund the ongoing emergency response so that the most desperate can receive the food, water, medicine and shelter that they need to survive.

Humanitarian actors in Somalia must coordinate in order to maximize the impact of aid efforts throughout the country.

At this hour of crisis, the United States condemns the callous actions of Al-Shabaab, including the targeting of civilians and the blocking of humanitarian aid for millions of Somalis. Al-Shabaab continues to block access to the populations hit hardest by the famine. Its cruelty has severely impeded international efforts to tackle the growing humanitarian crisis. All armed groups must respect human rights and protect civilians, especially women and children. Rape and sexual violence against innocent women and children are unconscionable and must stop. All parties in Somalia share responsibility for protecting civilians and enlarging and preserving the humanitarian space. All armed groups in Somalia must adhere to international humanitarian law.

Let me turn now to the political situation. The United States welcomes the signing of the Kampala Accord on 9 June and the outcome of the high-level consultative meetings in Mogadishu in early September. We commend Special Representative Mahiga for his efforts to spur political reconciliation and progress, including through an agreed upon road map with benchmarks and timelines. It is now up to the Transitional Federal Government to improve governance by working with responsible regional and local administrations, civil society groups and clan leaders, on the basis of shared goals of peace and stability, to achieve the benchmarks laid out in the road map.

To that end, we remind the Transitional Federal Institutions that future international support will be contingent upon the completion of the tasks in the road map. Now is the time for sustained and vigorous peacebuilding efforts by the Transitional Federal Government.

The Somali people deserve a responsible and credible Government. We urge the Transitional Federal Government to take advantage of the new security environment to extend the writ of the police, the criminal justice system and other civilian institutions into the newly liberated areas of Mogadishu. The TFG must provide improved governance, essential services and fiscal transparency and responsibility, and it must hold credible elections in August 2012.

On the security front, the United States welcomes the significant military achievements of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Somali Security Forces. The coordinated AMISOM offensive against Al-Shabaab that began in February has achieved impressive results. It contributed to Al Shabaab's withdrawal from nearly all of Mogadishu on 6 August. Nonetheless, Al-Shabaab remains a threat, and we urge AMISOM and the Somali Security Forces to persevere in their counter-insurgency efforts. For its part, the TFG must make further progress on the agreed road map, and must begin providing services in as much of Mogadishu as possible in order to solidify recent security gains.

The United States commends the Governments of Burundi and Uganda for their commitment to AMISOM. We thank Major General Mugisha for his leadership and all of AMISOM's brave peacekeepers. We welcome further troop commitments from other AU partner nations so that AMISOM can reach its mandated strength to quickly secure its expanded area of operations.

The United States intends to continue our strong bilateral support to AMISOM troop-contributing countries. Since 2007, we have obligated more than $258 million worth of training equipment and logistic support to AMISOM and its troop-contributors. We have also provided more than $85 million for security assistance to the TFG to develop a professional and capable Somali security force. We urge other Member States to fund, without caveats, the United Nations Trust Fund for AMISOM, including the urgently needed reimbursement of contingent-owned equipment.

The United States also commends the work of the United Nations Support Office for AMISOM and the significant contributions that it has made to improving AMISOM's logistical operations and quality of life. We urge the United Nations to expand its presence and activities in Somalia as the security situation allows. Relocating United Nations personnel to Mogadishu is key to the long and difficult effort to defeat Al-Shabaab and to restore stability and decent governance in Somalia.

Finally, let me turn to piracy off the coast of Somalia — a scourge that began because of the instability and lack of governance on land that now threatens the peace, security and stability of Somalia. Piracy, and the illicit and lucrative economy that it

brings with it, contribute to corruption and corrode sustainable political and economic development. The only sustainable long-term solution to piracy, which will also advance Somalia's long-term economic development, political stability and humanitarian situation, is security and good governance.

The United States is deeply committed to supporting humanitarian relief efforts and to the security and stability of Somalia. We will continue to partner with the international community to help end the worsening humanitarian crisis and bring relief to the suffering people of that troubled land.

Mr. Messone (Gabon) (*spoke in French*): On 15 August in the Council we adopted a press statement (see SC/10360), in which we stated our support for the holding of the consultative meeting on ending the transition in Somalia. As we now hold this meeting, I would like to thank you, Mr. President, for having organized this debate on the development of the situation in Somalia, which remains of concern.

We welcome the presence among us of His Excellency Mr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, Prime Minister of Somalia. We are grateful to him for his important statement. We would like first of all to express our satisfaction at the information that he has given us with regard to the commitment of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) to doing its utmost to implement the road map adopted during the meeting at the beginning of September.

We thank Mr. Augustine Mahiga, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, for the information that he gave us in presenting the report of the Secretary-General (S/2011/549). Finally, we would like to welcome the presence of Ambassador Boubacar Diarra, who represents the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, and we thank him for his statement.

Like all members, Gabon remains concerned about the severity of the humanitarian crisis that continues to prevail in Somalia. It certainly remains a major challenge for the country and for the international community. Today, five regions in Somalia are affected by the famine. Children die every day from malnutrition, disease and the lack of appropriate care. The humanitarian efforts and the funding provided have made it possible, however, to provide greater assistance to the most vulnerable populations, in particular those in the capital and in the refugee camps in Kenya and Ethiopia. In addition, the African Union conference held on 25 August in Addis Ababa mobilized some $350 million for efforts to help the Horn of Africa.

These actions demonstrate the willingness of Africa and the international community to provide an urgent response to the humanitarian crisis. For its part, Gabon has contributed to those efforts by making a modest contribution of $2.5 million.

Despite all these efforts, the needs on the ground remain significant. In that regard, Gabon wishes to reiterate the Secretary-General's call for sustained assistance. We must move beyond emergency assistance and create support mechanisms for agriculture in Somalia. Since this is an urgent matter, we have an opportunity to think about systemic long-term actions to prevent food insecurity. We therefore welcome the upcoming meeting of the Group of Twenty, which will give the international community an opportunity to mobilize its efforts to fight food insecurity.

The onset of rains in southern Somalia should be an opportunity for the international community to help Somalis acquire better seeds and fertilizers, which would in turn boost agricultural production. Thus, we would be able to offer a sustained response to the humanitarian crisis plaguing Somalia and the Horn of Africa.

Regarding the political situation, we join other Council members in noting the progress made. We can never repeat this enough: the Somali crisis is above all a political and institutional crisis, which is why a sustained solution can be found only if greater emphasis is placed on reconciliation among all Somalis. In that regard, we reiterate the appeal made by the representative of the African Union.

The solution also involves restoring State authority and bolstering the peace process. We therefore welcome the 6 September adoption of the road map for the final stages of transition in the country. That step will help to further build cohesiveness among the Transitional Federal Institutions. The road map is a basic document and a further landmark in the implementation of the Djibouti Agreement.

We are encouraged by the establishment of new regional administrations comprised of former armed

militia groups who stand ready to work with the Transitional Federal Government. The willingness of the armed movements to become political parties exemplifies the positive evolution of the peace process in Somalia.

Gabon stresses the need to consolidate this political progress. We encourage the Transitional Federal Government and the Federal Parliament to carry out all tasks set out in the road map as soon as possible. The drafting of the constitution, the improvement of security and national reconciliation are essential to efforts to end more than 20 years of instability in the country. Thus, it is important for the Security Council and, more generally, the international community to continue supporting the Transitional Federal Government with a view to strengthening its authority throughout the country.

On the security front, Somalia has made substantial progress, as evidenced by the withdrawal of the Al-Shabaab militias from Mogadishu. Nevertheless, threats to security persist. Attempted attacks against humanitarian workers, continued fighting in southern Somalia and the attacks of last July in Kenya remind us of that fact.

In that regard, Gabon calls on the international community to mobilize even further. The presence of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) remains essential. It must enjoy predictable funding and achieve the force strength authorized in resolution 1964 (2010).

My delegation welcomes the announcement made by Djibouti and Sierra Leone, which, despite their difficult conditions, have agreed to provide troops to AMISOM. We also wish to thank all countries that are contributing in various ways to the viability of this operation. However, as pointed out by the African Union in its communiqué of 13 September, the United Nations bears the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security. That is why we should consider the deployment of a genuine United Nations peacekeeping mission, the modalities of which could be determined in cooperation with the African Union.

For the time being, we should attempt to improve the United Nations support system for AMISOM. Delayed reimbursements for contingent-owned equipment and shortcomings in logistical support have enormously hindered the timely deployment of additional troops. My delegation remains prepared to consider any proposal made by the Secretary-General in that respect. We should continue to train the Somali Police Force and the National Security Force. Peace and stability in Somalia are first and foremost the responsibility of the Somali people themselves. All those measures are even more urgent and necessary as they will help us to capitalize on the security gains of recent months.

In conclusion, my delegation would like to highlight one point regarding the threat that piracy represents to the entire coastline of Somalia. Every time the issue has been raised in the Council, Gabon has consistently stressed the importance of a global approach, which must include efforts to address the security and humanitarian threat on the mainland. We therefore look forward with interest to the upcoming report of the Secretary-General on this matter.

Finally, we take this opportunity to once again welcome the effective partnership between the United Nations and the African Union in support of peace and stability in Somalia.

Mr. Barbalić (Bosnia and Herzegovina): At the outset, allow me to express our gratitude to the Secretary-General for his comprehensive report (S/2011/549) on Somalia and to thank Mr. Augustine Mahiga, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, for his useful and informative briefing this morning. We also thank Mr. Boubacar Gaoussou Diarra for his contribution to today's debate. We also welcome His Excellency Mr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, Prime Minister of Somalia, and thank him for his remarks.

Bosnia and Herzegovina notes with satisfaction the recent security developments in Somalia. It is of crucial importance that this window of opportunity be used in the right manner. The consolidation of authority, delivery of basic services to its people and fighting corruption, as well as the process of national reconciliation, are essential for the success of the Transitional Federal Government. Strengthening State institutions, particularly the National Security Force and the Somali Police Force, should be accelerated with the assistance of the international community.

We reiterate our full support to the Transitional Federal Government and the Djibouti peace process. We also welcome the signing of the Kampala Accord, which overcame the political impasse that had

paralysed and endangered the peace process in Somalia. We are pleased to note the timely implementation of the Kampala Accord to date, and we encourage the Transitional Federal Institutions to continue their efforts in that regard.

Bosnia and Herzegovina strongly welcomes the holding and outcome of the consultative meeting organized and facilitated by Special Representative Mahiga. The adopted road map, with clear timelines and benchmarks for completing the current 12-month transitional period, should be implemented in a timely manner, bearing in mind that the future support of the international community for Somalia depends on its realization. We call upon the Transitional Federal Institutions to demonstrate unity, cooperation and commitment in carrying out their obligations through an inclusive and genuine Somali-owned political process.

The international community has already shown its dedication to helping the Somali people achieve lasting peace and stability in the country. We express our hope that those efforts will continue, and reiterate our call on the international community and Somalia's partners to provide urgent assistance to the Transitional Federal Government.

Other important developments are the recent activities aimed at increasing the presence of the United Nations in Mogadishu and other parts of Somalia. We express our encouragement of further coordination of the United Nations work in the country.

We are concerned about continuing grave violations of human rights, especially against women and children. We therefore urge all parties to the conflict to fully comply with international humanitarian law and human rights law in order to protect the civilian population.

Furthermore, we express our serious concern with regard to the humanitarian situation in Somalia. While famine is spreading, due to a deadly combination of severe drought, ongoing fighting and difficulties in the delivery of humanitarian assistance, the people of Somalia are facing a new humanitarian catastrophe. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who endure the terrible effects of the famine, which has already resulted in the deaths of tens of thousands of people.

More than 3 million people in Somalia depend on humanitarian assistance, including internally displaced persons, who represent one of the most vulnerable groups in the country. The insecurity, compounded by the drought, has led to migration in all directions throughout the Horn of Africa.

We urge the international community to redouble its efforts in providing assistance to the people of Somalia. We share the assessment of the Secretary-General that a multisectoral response is essential, and call upon all Member States to contribute to the consolidated appeal for Somalia.

Bosnia and Herzegovina commends all humanitarian organizations and workers for their tireless efforts in providing humanitarian assistance to people in need in Somalia despite the extremely difficult environment in which they operate. We urge that humanitarian agencies and workers be given unhindered access to the populations in need.

The African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) continues to represent an important factor of stability in the country. We commend AMISOM troops for their tireless efforts in stabilizing the situation and hope that its troop levels will soon reach the mandated strength. We call upon the international community to continue its support to AMISOM, with the aim of seeing its mandate fully implemented.

We recognize the importance of the United Nations Support Office for AMISOM, the United Nations Political Office for Somalia, and the United Nations country team for Somalia, as well as the hard work of the African Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and all other humanitarian organizations. We also welcome the efforts of the United Nations Mine Action Service to reduce the risks to the civilian population posed by mines and unexploded ordnance.

Piracy off the coast of Somalia continues to pose a threat to international peace and security. The phenomenon of piracy is one of the challenges that still await a comprehensive, adequate and effective response from the international community, although some security, judiciary, prevention, best practices and awareness-raising measures have been taken. We should continue to cooperate and concentrate on eliminating the root causes of piracy.

Mr. Wittig (Germany): At the outset, I would also like to thank Special Representative of the Secretary-General Augustine Mahiga for his briefing.

We highly appreciate his work and continue to support him. I would also like to thank the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union Somalia, Mr. Boubacar Gaoussou Diarra, and the Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic (TFG), Mr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, for their presence and their statements.

My delegation aligns itself with the statement to be delivered by the observer of the European Union later on.

Germany welcomes the results of the Mogadishu consultative meeting held on 6 September. We hope that the agreed road map will guide Somali politics for the months to the come and will be implemented with determination and a strong sense of responsibility. As the road map does not yet provide strict benchmarks, we wish to stress the imperative necessity for making progress measurable.

Continued international support will be depended on such progress. The Somali actors have to deliver now, since the transitional period cannot be prolonged indefinitely. We encourage the Transition Federal Institutions to continue to demonstrate their political will, which is indispensable to successfully cope with the manifold tasks that still lie ahead.

We call on the Somali institutions to make the best possible use of the additional year of transition and to finalize the transition process at last. We continue to support every honest and serious effort aimed at achieving sustainable peace and stability in Somalia.

The withdrawal of Al-Shabaab forces from the capital and other parts of the country is a unique opportunity for the Somali Government to assume its responsibilities and provide stability and a safe life for Somalis. This opportunity must be seized. The TFG must reinforce its efforts to enhance its political base and to reach out and win over as many political forces as possible, particularly in Somalia's regions — something that does not seem to have happened on a sufficient scale in previous months.

We would like once more to commend the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Ugandan and Burundian peacekeepers for the role that the Mission plays in Somalia, and especially for the success achieved over the past month. We also pay our respects and tribute in connection with the casualties that the African Union force has had to suffer. We remain grateful to the African Union for the decisive action that it has taken in an extremely challenging and dangerous environment. AMISOM is living proof of the willingness and capacity of the African Union to take responsibility for peace and security on the African continent.

My country actively contributes to the European Union training mission for Somali security forces, which takes place in close cooperation with AMISOM and Uganda. It aims at providing capable and professional security forces for the Somali Government that could form the nucleus of a respected State authority that effectively controls the whole country.

Joint and effective actions by Somali authorities are all the more important now that the region is facing a tremendous humanitarian catastrophe. Not only the continuous drought but, first and foremost, the repercussions of many years of civil war, as well as the absence of effective State institutions, have led to the current catastrophe in Somalia, of which, once again, the weakest are suffering the most. With almost half of the entire Somali population affected and more than 12 million in urgent need of help in the whole region, fast and effective humanitarian assistance is crucial. My country provides over $200 million for emergency relief, food assistance and food security.

Finally, I would like to stress that Germany and the international community continue to support the Somali institutions in their efforts to establish a viable and stable Somali State. The Transitional Federal Institutions can count on this support that has gone on for decades. In return, my country and the international community expect Somali institutions to act swiftly, responsibly and credibly in order end the Somali crisis.

Mrs. Ogwu (Nigeria): On behalf of the Nigerian delegation, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Lebanese presidency for convening today's debate.

Somalia faces daunting challenges, and we welcome the opportunity to discuss them comprehensively. Let me take this opportunity to welcome His Excellency Prime Minister Abdiweli Mohamed Ali and to thank him for his very insightful statement. I also want to thank Ambassador Boubacar Diarra, Special Representative of the Chairperson of

the Commission of the African Union for Somalia, for his very perceptive remarks.

I want to thank Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mahiga for his comprehensive statement and, indeed, his tireless efforts to achieve peace and security in Somalia. We greatly appreciate his persistent and enduring engagement with Somalia's stakeholders in an effort to optimize the transitional period.

Nigeria is encouraged by the priorities that Prime Minister Abdiweli Mohamed Ali has succinctly outlined to move Somalia beyond its security, political and socio-economic challenges. Our support for the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), its institutions and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) in their efforts to rebuild Somalia remains unflinching.

Although recent territorial gains and the ousting of Al-Shabaab from Mogadishu have undoubtedly enhanced security around the capital city and facilitated the delivery of aid, security remains a daunting challenge in Somalia. Effective and sustained measures are required to underpin recent gains and incrementally extend the TFG's authority throughout the country. We believe that those challenges must compel the Council to revise its Somalia strategy by fast-tracking support both for the TFG and its institutions as well as AMISOM.

Nigeria shares the Secretary-General's assessment that AMISOM's continued presence in Somalia remains invaluable to the TFG as it seeks to discharge its responsibilities. We believe that the full deployment of the 3,000 troops authorized by the Council, increasing AMISOM's force strength to 12,000, will significantly enhance its capabilities and effectiveness. Indeed, augmenting AMISOM's capabilities with force enablers and expanding its support package should be central to the new Somalia strategy. Adequate provisions should be made for the self-sustenance of the troops as well as the reimbursement for contingent-owned equipment.

Nigeria welcomes the ongoing support provided by bilateral partners to the Trust Fund for AMISOM and encourages partners to provide caveat-free support.

In our view, the 18 August African Union technical workshop outlined critical next steps for AMISOM. Establishing a dedicated formed police unit to buttress law and order in Mogadishu, as well as an additional battalion of 300 to protect United Nations personnel, is critical to prevent the overextension of its military resources and capabilities.

Cognizant of the importance of building and strengthening Somalia's internal security forces, Nigeria welcomes the prospect of the adoption of a national security and stabilization plan by 19 October under the political road map. We welcome the road map's declaration of a comprehensive legislative and security response to the ongoing threat of piracy. Nigeria is encouraged that the consultative meeting held in Mogadishu from 4 to 6 September delineated a concrete set of objectives to reinforce the political process, including the Transitional Federal Institutions. Nigeria has unequivocally stressed that national ownership over Somalia's political trajectory remains critical for ensuring the sustainability of the peace process.

The efforts to adopt a draft constitution and create a credible and stable parliament by next July are significant first steps in developing an enduring and legitimate structure. It bears reiterating that unity and coherence within the TFG and its institutions will go a long way in consolidating recent gains and expediting the implementation of both the Kampala Accord and the post-transition road map for Somalia.

Like other delegations, Nigeria is deeply concerned by the unabated humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa, including Somalia. We are all aware that more than 12.5 million people are affected by the worst drought in the region in 60 years. It is troubling that this natural disaster may be worsened by the deliberate obstruction of humanitarian efforts by insurgents. Indeed, as many as 750,000 lives may be at deadly risk. The denial of the right to food undermines the right to health, thus ultimately placing at risk the most fundamental of all human rights, namely, the right to life. We call on all parties to guarantee unfettered access to humanitarian agencies as they strive to deliver vitally needed aid.

The current crisis is vast in scope and requires the collective resources of the international community to stem the rapidly rising cost in human life. We call on all Member States to contribute to the consolidated Somalia fund. For its part, Nigeria has contributed $2 million to the fund.

The coming months will provide the TFG with a renewed opportunity to forge permanent governmental

structures and build enduring peace and security. The goals enumerated in the road map are a vital first step. In the face of the difficulties posed by the transition period, insecurity and the humanitarian crisis, delivering on these goals will require not only the comprehensive efforts of the Somali authorities but also the full support of the international community. As the Secretary-General aptly stated, we must capitalize on recent developments and seize the opportunities created by the Kampala Accord, the political road map and the force withdrawal of Al-Shabaab from Mogadishu.

Mr. Pankin (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): We are grateful to Special Representative of the Secretary-General Augustine Mahiga for his briefing on the situation in Somalia and for his presentation of the report of the Secretary-General (S/2011/549). We are also grateful to the new Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), Mr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, for his analysis of the situation and prospects. We also thank Mr. Boubacar Diarra, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union for Somalia, for his statement.

As has been said, in spite of clear success in driving Al-Shabaab from Mogadishu, the security situation in Somalia continues to be of great concern. Fundamental breakthroughs have not yet been achieved. The efforts of extremists have not yet been extirpated. They continue to control half of the country and they seem unwilling to lay down their arms.

We share the concern that the security vacuum following the withdrawal of extremists from Mogadishu may not be filled by the TFG and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), but rather by local militias that are not under the control of the Government. In those circumstances, it is important to prevent the campaign against Al-Shabaab from turning into a clan war of the most unpredictable nature. We are also worried by what is stated in the Secretary-General's report with regard to delays in the implementation of the provisions of resolution 1964 (2010) and efforts for strengthening African peacekeepers and increasing their force strength to the planned level of 12,000.

To consolidate security, there must be active prevention of internal attempts by the Somali opposition. The Security Council must therefore give due attention to the need to increase the effectiveness of the sanctions regime.

In our view, the positive outcomes of the consultative meeting in Mogadishu and the adoption of the road map for the conclusion of the transition period are grounds for optimism. The Transitional Federal Institutions must immediately proceed to the implementation of their tasks, with optimal support by participants at the meeting.

We view it as important to continue working on the participation of a large number of representatives from local administrations and civil society organizations in the current unprecedented efforts to galvanize stability in Somalia. In the end, comprehensive success in Somalia will depend on Somalis themselves.

Of particular concern is the exacerbation of an already chronic humanitarian situation in Somalia. We support the call by the General Assembly for a more effective international response to the situation, where almost half of the population is affected by famine and life support systems are in danger of collapse. The Russian Federation stands ready to provide emergency food aid to Somalia by way of an additional targeted contribution of $2 million to the World Food Programme.

Piracy off the coast of Somalia is an area of particular concern for us. This criminal enterprise is itself becoming a threat to peace and security in the region. The force component of the drive against piracy has revealed its insufficiency. However, the situation in those troubled waters continues to be dangerous. In our view, the situation will not improve as long as pirates and their facilitators get away with their actions. In that regard, we are disappointed by the negative reaction of Somali authorities at all levels, in particular the TFG's response to the promising proposal of international efforts to establish an extraterritorial Somali court. Nevertheless, we continue to work with other States on creating an effective justice mechanism in the region in order to bring pirates to justice.

We believe it is appropriate to maintain a step-by-step approach in expanding the presence of the United Nations in the country. In that respect, a key factor would be to take into account the security situation. We favour strengthened coordination of the activities of United Nations bodies working on Somalia. We

support the proposal of the Secretary-General to establish a separate sub-unit of AMISOM for the protection of United Nations personnel and those of international organizations in Mogadishu.

In close cooperation with its partners, Russia will continue to support the efforts of the President of Somalia and of the TFG in establishing lasting peace and national reconciliation based on the Djibouti Agreements and in the interest of strengthening security and stability in the region.

In conclusion, we are grateful to the delegation of the United Kingdom for preparing the draft resolution on the continuation of the AMISOM mandate.

Mr. Li Baodong (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): I would like to thank Mr. Mahiga, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, for his briefing and his contributions to furthering the peace process in Somalia. I also welcome Prime Minister Abdiweli Mohamed Ali of the Transitional Federal Government and His Excellency Mr. Diarra, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union for Somalia, to this meeting.

Progress has been made recently in the peace process and security situation in Somalia, including the signing of the Kampala Accord and the successful consultative meeting convened in Mogadishu, as well as in the transition process. Good intentions have been shown by various parties in Somalia to build lasting peace and identify the actions necessary to strengthen the peace process in the country.

Military operations by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the National Security Force have resulted in important achievements and improved the security situation in Somalia. China welcomes this development and appreciates the contributions of international and regional organizations, such as the United Nations and the African Union, as well as the contributions of the Governments of Uganda, Ethiopia and Burundi.

It should be noted that the peace process in Somalia still has a long way to go and faces arduous tasks. The recent famine in Somalia has led to a severe humanitarian crisis. Parties in Somalia and in the international community should now focus on the following efforts.

First, they should take advantage of the window of opportunity to vigorously promote the peace process. The concrete implementation of the road map drafted at the consultative meeting on ending the transition phase is the top priority for the next phase of work. It also holds the key to achieving peace and stability in Somalia. China hopes that the parties in Somalia can make use of the current favourable momentum to further strengthen unity, increase mutual trust and strengthen capacity-building in order to ensure the smooth implementation of the road map. The international community should continue to assist the Transitional Federal Institutions through enhanced capacity-building and provide greater support to Somalia's peace process.

Secondly, in order to support the efforts of the African Union to resolve the question of Somalia, we hope that the Security Council will attach great importance to the requests and recommendations of the African Union Peace and Security Council on resolving the issue of Somalia and respond positively. AMISOM plays a vital role in maintaining security and stability in Somalia. China supports the extension of AMISOM's mandate and calls on the international community, in particular the United Nations, to intensify its support to AMISON by providing greater logistical, technical and financial support. At the same time, we also support the Security Council in positively considering the deployment of a peacekeeping operation in Somalia at an appropriate time.

Thirdly, every effort must be made to help Somalia address its humanitarian crisis. China is deeply concerned with the increasing famine in Somalia and welcomes the emergency aid efforts of international humanitarian agencies. We urge the parties in Somalia to fully cooperate with the aid efforts of the international community. China has donated $16 million to support the efforts of the World Food Programme on the famine in Somalia. We call on the international community to continue to provide further assistance to Somalia.

Mr. Bonne (France) (*spoke in French*): Allow me, at the outset, to thank the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, Mr. Mahiga, for his briefing and for his presence here so soon after the successful conference in Mogadishu. I also thank the representative of the African Union and the Prime Minister of Somalia for joining us in the Council today.

I will first of all refer to the humanitarian situation in Somalia, which remains of particular concern. Famine was declared in the Bay region last week, bringing to six the number of regions affected by this scourge. There are now 4 million people affected, of whom 450,000 are at risk of imminent death. Worse yet, the famine has almost certainly not yet peaked, although it could do so in the coming weeks or months. It is therefore imperative that we support focused and joint efforts undertaken to help Somalis get through this severe humanitarian crisis. That is why France has allocated €30 million in emergency aid to the Horn of Africa and dispatched 18 tons of child supplements by air and 381 tons of food rations by ship.

I welcome the efforts of United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to provide aid to the Somali people. It is a complex task within a territory that is controlled in most areas by Al-Shabaab. In that respect it is necessary for all actors involved, including NGOs, the United Nations country team and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), to coordinate among themselves as best they can.

Secondly, the security situation in Somalia remains critical. The withdrawal of Al-Shabaab forces from Mogadishu has shown that things can change in the country. The capital is now completely under the control of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG). AMISOM has played an important key role, without which Mogadishu would still be in the hands of Al-Shabaab. It is important that today we capitalize on that progress. AMISOM must secure all of the liberated territory and the positions acquired, in close coordination with the armed forces of the TFG and allied militias. The vacuum left by the withdrawal of Al-Shabaab must not, under any condition, be filled by new warlords. AMISOM must also pursue efforts, together with the TFG forces, to reduce the number of areas remaining under Al-Shabaab control.

In order to strengthen AMISOM, Council members raised the troop ceiling from 9,000 to 12,000 troops last year. We would like the African Union to now do everything possible to ensure that this authorized increased troop ceiling be achieved as soon as possible. The strengthening we have also provided for in the United Nations logistical support package for AMISOM should also help to strengthen the force.

Thirdly, it must be remembered that AMISOM's deployment is not an end in itself, but a way to restore peace and enable the establishment of a stable State in Somalia. It is therefore the task of the Transitional Federal Institutions to lay the foundations for that State as soon as possible. France therefore welcomes the adoption of the road map on 6 September in Mogadishu. We hope that it will facilitate the step-by-step establishment of a constitutional framework, bring about national reconciliation and provide basic services to the population.

The TFG must be aware of the short time in which it must achieve those goals. In less than one year, it will have to accomplish what it has not managed to do in six years. Every deadline set out in the road map will have to be met from the beginning so as not to fail to attain those goals. It will fall to the international community to help the Transitional Federal Government throughout the process and to ensure follow-up at each step. The support and expertise of the United Nations in this matter will be critical. The presence of the country team agencies and of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia should be strengthened on the ground as much as possible. To facilitate the efficiency and effectiveness of that presence on the ground in Mogadishu, we support the creation of a specific AMISOM detachment of 300 soldiers for the protection of international personnel.

The international community has chosen to lend its trust and its support for another year to the transitional institutions in Somalia. Over the coming months, we expect them to demonstrate equal resolve and engagement — hitherto unseen — commensurate with the expectations of the Somali people.

Mrs. Viotti (Brazil): I thank you, Mr. President, for convening this important debate. I welcome His Excellency Mr. Ali, Prime Minister of Somalia, and thank him for his presentation. I also thank Special Representative of the Secretary-General Augustine Mahiga for briefing us on the latest developments in Somalia, and I wish to express our appreciation to him for his work, in particular for his pivotal role in facilitating dialogue among Somali stakeholders with such positive results. I also thank Mr. Boubacar Diarra, Special Representative of the African Union Commission for Somalia, for his contribution to our debate.

The consultative meeting on ending the transition held in Mogadishu this month represents a very encouraging step forward. We are pleased at the high turnout at the meeting, and we welcome the adoption of a road map for the implementation of the transitional tasks. We are encouraged by the fact that the key tasks of improving security, working towards the new constitution, achieving reconciliation and improving governance have been given high priority. Adherence by the Somali authorities to the timeline set out in Mogadishu will be of the utmost importance. The support of the international community will remain crucial.

The fact that the meeting was held in the capital is very meaningful. We congratulate the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) on the improvement of the security situation in the capital. That important development signals tangible progress in the security sector. We are also pleased that the United Nations presence in Mogadishu has also increased. In order to build on that positive momentum, it is important that the TFG and AMISOM advance further into areas in central and southern Somalia.

As we discuss the renewal of the AMISOM mandate, we must be mindful of the need to grant the Mission the necessary conditions to fulfil its tasks. Expanding AMISOM and enhancing its capability is critical to enabling the Mission to maintain and build upon the recent security gains. Once again, we thank Burundi and Uganda for their continued commitment to the improvement of the situation in Somalia.

We are all touched by the tragic humanitarian crisis in Somalia, in particular the widespread famine. The number of children dying of causes related to malnourishment has reached alarming levels. Internally displaced persons and refugees have put an increasing strain on Somalia's neighbouring countries. Addressing the humanitarian crisis in Somalia must continue to be a priority for the international community. Ending the current famine should be at the top of our agenda. We welcome the fact that humanitarian agencies have stepped up assistance to Somalia. Ways of improving assistance to the populations in areas under the control of Al-Shabaab must be devised.

Brazil's humanitarian assistance to the Horn of Africa has included food donations and financial support estimated at $27 million. To Somalia alone, we have donated 38,000 tons of food. We agree with the Secretary-General and Under-Secretary-General Valerie Amos that there is a need to address not only the immediate crisis but also its underlying causes. Sustainable solutions must be found, taking into account in particular the vulnerable segments of the population. Brazil will continue to work with the Council and the broader United Nations in helping Somalia to overcome its current challenges.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I shall now make a statement in my capacity as representative of Lebanon.

Allow me to begin by thanking Mr. Mahiga for his exhaustive briefing and for his efforts to restore stability and strengthen the United Nations presence in Somalia. Once again, I welcome the Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, Mr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, and thank him for his statement. I also highlight the importance of the participation of Mr. Boubacar Diarra, Special Representative of the African Union Commission for Somalia.

We express our deep concern about the worsening of the humanitarian situation in the Horn of Africa, particularly in Somalia, due to the drought and famine that have beset the country. We insist on humanitarian action being continued, with the involvement of all Somali stakeholders, so as to provide humanitarian aid to all those in need. We welcome the pledges of aid made by donor countries. Lebanon has made its own modest contribution and calls on other States to increase their contributions in order to alleviate the crisis and meet humanitarian needs.

In a country where, because of the war and famine, half the population is in urgent need of humanitarian aid, we must not settle for temporary approaches to the security and humanitarian situations that would fail to stabilize the situation in the long term. Somalia needs a comprehensive strategy to strengthen its unity and State institutions and to revitalize its economy. We note the momentum in the Djibouti peace process, especially with the signing of the Kampala Accord, and we are pleased that the consultative meeting held from 4 to 6 September led to a road map defining the transition tasks to be accomplished.

We highlight yet again the importance of the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs), including the

new Government, implementing those tasks in accordance with the timeline set out and engaging with local administrations as well as opposition parties to accomplish those tasks. Along those lines, we encourage the administration to cooperate with the TFIs. In particular, we call on donor States to strengthen the central role of the Institutions so as to promote cohesion in Somalia and prevent fragmentation of international aid.

Allow me to turn now to the withdrawal of Al-Shabaab from Mogadishu. We welcome that development and call on the Government, with the support of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), to implement a plan to stabilize the city. We urge parties to fill the vacuum, prevent the proliferation of militias, and bolster support for civilians by providing increased public services.

We condemn piracy and armed robbery and call on the African Union to respond to this global issue by addressing the root causes of the problem. In the absence of an international peace force, Lebanon echoes the Secretary-General's call for donor States to give AMISOM the same support given to United Nations peacekeeping operations. We call on the Council to seriously consider the proposals contained in the communiqué issued yesterday by the African Union Peace and Security Council.

We call on stakeholders and donors to step up their contributions to covering the costs incurred by AMISOM and to remove the reservations related to contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of AMISOM. We particularly welcome the roles played by Uganda and Burundi in helping to strengthen stability and security in Somalia by sending additional troops to reinforce AMISOM.

I now resume my functions President of the Security Council.

I give the floor to Mr. Serrano.

Mr. Serrano (European Union): Let me thank you, Sir, for having invited the European Union (EU) to participate in this debate. I also thank His Excellency Prime Minister Ali for his important statement. I further wish to thank the Special Representative of the African Union Commission, Mr. Diarra, for his presentation, and Special Representative of the Secretary-General Augustine Mahiga for this briefing and all his efforts.

The candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Iceland; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia align themselves with this declaration.

The European Union follows events in Somalia with great attention. It seeks to help efforts to stabilize the country and provide hope for those afflicted by war, insecurity, poverty and starvation. There has been encouraging progress, such as the accord signed in Kampala between several of Somalia's interested political parties. It is important that this accord be implemented, promises be kept, and the one-year extension of the transition period be put to good use. The adoption of the road map in Mogadishu on 6 September represents an important positive step. As a member of the technical committee facilitating cooperation to implement the road map, the European Union will spare no effort to support the Transitional Federal Institutions on their path to reforms. This needs to happen in compliance with the agreed benchmarks and timelines.

Encouraging progress has been made at the security level. The withdrawal of Al-Shabaab from Mogadishu gives more reason for hope. Despite such positive developments, however, the situation remains fragile. And now we are faced with a new challenge: famine. Almost 4 million Somalis are in need of assistance. Thousands are fleeing to neighbouring countries, and food shortages threaten to expand further. Together with international partners, the European Union pursues a comprehensive approach to Somalia.

In order to respond to the immediate needs posed by the famine, the European Union and its member States have allocated over €166 million from funds reserved for humanitarian assistance to help the people of Somalia. These funds serve to finance the provision food as well as health care, water and sanitation facilities by a number of partners and United Nations agencies. Stepping up the immediate humanitarian response will save lives, but it is also necessary to invest in long-term solutions to build up resilience to future droughts.

This is why the European Union looks closely at the causes of famine. It is committed to supporting programmes in the areas of drought preparedness, agriculture, rural development and food security. EU engagement includes an additional €175 million in development funds recently allocated to Somalia for the period 2011-2013.

As part of its comprehensive approach, the European Union is helping to stabilize the country by providing support to the security sector. On 28 July, the European Union extended its military training mission for Somalia by another year in order to help the transitional Government to build up its security forces. Some 150 military staff from 14 European Union States are serving in a mission that has trained around 2,000 Somali soldiers so far. Over the next year, the European Union training mission will focus on developing command and control structures and forming trainers who can then take over the training exercise.

In addition, EU Naval Force Atalanta remains substantially involved in naval operations against piracy off the shores of Somalia. On 7 December 2010, the Council of the European Union extended the operation's mandate for another two years, until 12 December 2012. The European Union also provides support to the countries in the region that have taken up the task of prosecuting suspected pirates.

Other actions focus on building up the maritime capacities of Somalia and neighbouring countries. Within the framework laid out by the International Maritime Organization — the so-called Djibouti Code of Conduct — our objective is to enhance information-sharing and training capacities for maritime administrations. In addition, the European Union is working on a new possible action to support regional maritime capacity-building in the Horn of Africa and the Western Indian Ocean. Measures taken in this context should enhance Somalia's capacities for controlling its coastal areas on land. We are also intensifying contacts with the United Nations and other relevant actors concerning Somalia's judicial system and the setting up of Somali courts. Through these actions we aim at strengthening national capacities and the rule of law — vital building blocks for a stable development environment.

The African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) remains a crucial element to support and protect Somalia's Transitional Federal Institutions. In 2011, the European Union made another contribution worth €65.9 million to AMISOM. It is preparing a €50-million additional support programme for the remaining months of 2011. This will bring overall EU support to AMISOM to more than €258 million since 2007.

The security context has changed significantly since the withdrawal of Al-Shabaab from large parts of Somalia, including the capital, Mogadishu. The Transitional Federal Government and AMISOM are facing new challenges, such as consolidating security in newly accessible areas and filling the security vacuum. Addressing these challenges will have clear resource implications. It is important to broaden resource mobilization and to identify alternative and additional sources of funding.

All this having been said, the role of the international community is only to assist. The main responsibility for Somalia's security lies with the Somalis themselves. The European Union will continue supporting the region's leadership and efforts in finding solutions. It also appreciates strong United Nations leadership in Somalia with a view to providing direction and support to the political process and to coordinating international support.

In conclusion, the European Union reiterates its commitment to helping improve the lives, dignity and security of the Somali people. Reconciliation, respect for human rights, the protection of civilians, the inclusion of women in peacebuilding, the rule of law and good governance are indispensable stepping stones on the road to peace and sustainable development. Somalia can count on the EU's support in this. At the same time, the European Union calls on Somalia's stakeholders, especially the Transitional Federal Institutions, to redouble their efforts to address the enormous political, economic and security challenges before them. The upcoming meeting of the International Contact Group on Somalia later this month in Copenhagen will provide an important opportunity for the Somali authorities and their regional and international partners to continue working together towards peace and stability in Somalia.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): There are no further names inscribed on my list of speakers.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.6615

Security Council

Distr.: General
14 September 2011

Original: English

Official communiqué of the 6615th (closed) meeting of the Security Council

Held in private at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 14 September 2011, at 3 p.m.

In accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the following communiqué was issued through the Secretary-General in place of a verbatim record:

"On 14 September 2011, the Security Council, pursuant to annex II, sections A and B of resolution 1353 (2001), held its 6615th meeting in private with the troop- and police-contributing countries to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.

"The Security Council and the troop- and police-contributing countries heard a briefing under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure by Mr. Mariano Fernandez, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.

"Members of the Council, Mr. Fernandez and representatives of participating contributing countries had an exchange of views."

11-49829 (E) 140911

Please recycle

United Nations S/PV.6616

Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6616th meeting

Thursday, 15 September 2011, 6.30 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Salam	(Lebanon)
Members:	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Ms. Čolaković
	Brazil	Mrs. Dunlop
	China	Mr. Yang Tao
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Araud
	Gabon	Mr. Onanga Ndiaye
	Germany	Mr. Wittig
	India	Mr. Kumar
	Nigeria	Mr. Onemola
	Portugal	Mr. Moraes Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	South Africa	Mr. Mashabane
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Tatham
	United States of America	Mrs. DiCarlo

Agenda

Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)

Letter dated 13 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Serbia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/574)

Letter dated 14 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/575)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

11-49879 (E)

Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 6.40 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)

Letter dated 13 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Serbia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/574)

Letter dated 14 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/575)

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): Under rule 37 of the Security Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Serbia to participate in this meeting.

On behalf of the Council, I welcome His Excellency Mr. Vuk Jeremić, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Serbia.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Edmond Mulet, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, to participate in this meeting.

In accordance with the understanding reached in the Council's prior consultations, I shall take it that the Security Council agrees to extend an invitation under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure to Mr. Enver Hoxhaj to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Security Council is meeting in response to a letter dated 14 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, contained in document S/2011/575.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2011/574, containing a letter dated 13 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Serbia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council.

I now give the floor to Mr. Mulet.

Mr. Mulet: My briefing will focus on the persisting tensions in northern Kosovo since the Council's latest discussions on the situation a few weeks ago.

As mentioned in the briefing of Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General Farid Zarif on 30 August (see S/PV.6604), following the 25 July events the Kosovo Force (KFOR) mediated a common understanding between all sides that KFOR would be responsible for the administrative boundary crossings — Gates 1 and 31 — in the North until at least today, 15 September. That understanding was intended to manage the situation until Belgrade and Pristina resumed the dialogue facilitated by the European Union in Brussels on 2 September. The implementation of the understanding led to a gradual, although not full, de-escalation of tensions in northern Kosovo and the removal of almost all roadblocks that had been set up by members of the Kosovo Serb community.

The 2 September meeting in Brussels dealt as planned with the issue of the Kosovo customs stamps, which had initially triggered Pristina's embargo on the Serbian goods and been one of the reasons given for the police operation in northern Kosovo on 25 July. Indeed, agreement was reached on the mutual recognition of customs stamps by Pristina and Belgrade. We understand that other customs-related issues, including the establishment of customs checks at the two gates in the North, were not addressed in the agreement.

The Security Council will recall that, prior to 25 July, the European Union Rule of Law Mission (EULEX) was in charge of the gates and exercised partial customs controls by recording the traffic at the gates and scanning documents. The information gained in that manner was shared with Kosovo police and customs, and with Serbian authorities via the EULEX Liaison Office in Belgrade. With EULEX police, EULEX customs also conducted joint random security checks.

As 15 September drew closer, the Kosovo authorities began announcing that they intended to establish full border and customs control functions at the gates after the expiration of the 15 September deadline for the KFOR regime there. In that regard, we understand that an operational plan has been prepared by Pristina, in coordination with EULEX, KFOR and

some other international stakeholders, to be implemented in a phased manner, starting tomorrow, 16 September. The current plan, according to information we obtained from various sources, entails EULEX resuming customs and border police duties at Gates 1 and 31, accompanied by two local officers at each of the two gates — one Kosovo customs officer and one Kosovo border police officer. We understand that efforts will be made to deploy one ethnic Albanian officer and one ethnic Serb officer. We also understand that, at this stage, there will be no revenue collection at the gates. According to EULEX, for commercial goods entering the Gate 31, customs fees will need to be paid at the Mitrovica South Customs Terminal.

A joint statement issued yesterday by the EU Special Representative and EULEX refers to the agreement reached on 2 September regarding the recognition of the customs stamps and notes that the EU Special Representative and EULEX were consulted by the authorities in Kosovo on the process of implementing that agreement and the EU expects the embargoes relating to trade between Serbia and Kosovo can now be lifted. The head of EULEX, Xavier Bout de Marnhac, stated that

> "This is all about improving the rule of law in the north which is in the interest of all law-abiding citizens and is what EULEX is for. There will be mixed teams at the gates. The operational work will be done by EULEX, according to its mandate."

In a press conference announcing the Kosovo authorities' plan for the implementation of the agreement, Kosovo Prime Minister Thaçi, stated that the plan was part of the overall "vision of the Government of Kosovo for the citizens of Kosovo living in the northern part of the country" that "will serve to expand the programme of local Government reform ... embedding and expanding the presence and authority of the Republic of Kosovo there". He added that he was sending a message "to all Serbs in northern Kosovo that the Government of Kosovo is in service to all citizens regardless of ethnicity".

At the same time, Pristina's plans for the establishment of customs controls at the gates are strongly opposed by the Kosovo Serbs in the North, who continue to reject the authority of the Kosovo institutions. In reaction to these recent statements, a number of peaceful protests were organized during the past week in the North, with the participation of Serbian schoolchildren, judicial and medical employees and others. Overall, an atmosphere of concern and anxiety seems to prevail, with the Kosovo Serbs showing increased vigilance and readiness to react to developments — for example, by re-establishing road blocks at the main bridge in Mitrovica, as well as the main roads in the North.

A number of local political representatives have also rejected the 2 September agreement on the customs stamps and have strongly criticized KFOR and EULEX for a lack of status neutrality, due to their support for Pristina's plans. In anticipation of developments at the gates, it has been announced that all public institutions and private businesses will be closed in northern Kosovo tomorrow, 16 September. Today, we were informed that, at 9 p.m. local time, Gate 1 was closed by KFOR due to approximately 100 Kosovo Serbs who had gathered there. Although not officially closed, Gate 31 has been sealed off by a Kosovo Serb-owned truck, completely blocking the road.

For its part, Belgrade has stood firm against Pristina's stated plans to establish customs checks in the North — an issue it expected to discuss in the context of the EU-facilitated dialogue. Serbian President Tadić stated in a press conference that "the fact that Serbia has been informed about Pristina's intentions does not mean that we accept these intentions". He said that Serbia would do everything it could for that not to occur, and warned the international institutions that "if it occurs, they bear responsibility for all the eventual consequences". He added that "This is now an attempt to impose unilateral solutions by KFOR and EULEX, who are obliged to be neutral in status" and that, for Serbia, "it is especially distressing that those who are ready for this sort of unilateral action are ready to do so with the use of force".

In the light of what I have mentioned, we are very concerned that the implementation of the announced plans could lead to a hardening of positions on the ground, threaten stability and lead to another outbreak of violence. Although not consulted on the substance of those plans by Pristina or other international interlocutors, the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo has proactively approached all sides to gather information, facilitate communication and send messages — to both Belgrade

and Pristina, as well as to the northern Kosovo Serb leaders — advocating calm and discouraging unilateral action or the use of force and violence. During the past few days, Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General Zarif has also met with many key interlocutors to personally convey that message, and facilitated a meeting between the northern Kosovo Serb leaders and the Deputy Commander of KFOR.

UNMIK will continue to work closely with all sides to identify a way forward that will aim to safeguard security and peace throughout Kosovo and avert a new crisis. We also expect that all international presences in Kosovo will discharge their mandated duties accordingly. But above all, it rests with the sides to demonstrate their full commitment to dialogue, reconciliation and peace, rather than unilateral action or the use of force. Today, Council members have the opportunity to send a clear message that Pristina and Belgrade need to take responsibility for preventing the recurrence of violence in northern Kosovo, tomorrow and in the future. We are opposed to unilateral action, on the one hand, and opposed to overheated rhetoric by any party, on the other, including any action that would threaten the gains and future of the dialogue.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I thank Mr. Mulet for his briefing.

In accordance with the understanding reached in the Council's prior consultations, I now invite Council members to continue our discussion on the subject in a private meeting.

The meeting rose at 7 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.6617

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 September 2011

Original : English

Official communiqué of the 6617th (closed) meeting of the Security Council

Held in private at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 15 September 2011, at 7 p.m.

In accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the following communiqué was issued through the Secretary-General in place of a verbatim record:

"At its 6617th meeting, held in private on 15 September 2011, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)'.

"Pursuant to the decision taken at the 6616th meeting, the President recognized the presence of His Excellency Mr. Vuk Jeremić, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Serbia, at the Council table, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

"The President, with the consent of the Council, invited the representatives of Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Netherlands, at their request, to participate in the consideration without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

"Pursuant to the decision taken at the 6616th meeting, the President recognized the presence of Mr. Edmond Mulet, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, at the Council table, in accordance with rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

"Pursuant to the decision taken at the 6616th meeting, the President recognized the presence of Mr. Enver Hoxhaj at the Council table, in accordance with rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

"The members of the Council, His Excellency Mr. Jeremić, Mr. Mulet and Mr. Hoxhaj had an exchange of views."

11-50145 (E) 160911

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United Nations S/PV.6618

Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6618th meeting

Friday, 16 September 2011, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Salam/Ms. Ziade	(Lebanon)
Members:	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Barbalić
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Briens
	Gabon	Mr. Moungara Moussotsi
	Germany	Mr. Wittig
	India	Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri
	Nigeria	Mr. Amieyeofori
	Portugal	Mr. Moraes Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Zhukov
	South Africa	Mr. Mashabane
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Parham
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

The question concerning Haiti

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (S/2011/540)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

11-50056 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The question concerning Haiti

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (S/2011/540)

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representatives of Argentina, Canada, Chile, Guatemala, Haiti, Spain and Uruguay to participate in this meeting.

In accordance with rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Mariano Fernandez Amunategui, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, to participate in this meeting.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Pedro Serrano, Acting Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2011/540, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.

I now give the floor to Mr. Mariano Fernandez Amunátegui.

Mr. Fernandez Amunategui (*spoke in Spanish*): I would like to begin by expressing my sincere thanks to you, Mr. President, and to the members of the Security Council for having organized this debate on the mandate of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). This is the first time I have had the honour of addressing the Council in my capacity as Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Haiti since I began fulfilling my duties on 26 June.

I am honoured to share with the Council an assessment of the most recent developments in the political and security situation in Haiti and of the activities of MINUSTAH in support of stability, the development of the rule of law and recovery efforts in the wake of the January 2010 earthquake.

Today, I have the privilege of presenting to the Council the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (S/2011/540), issued on 25 August. The report includes a summary of the most relevant findings and recommendations of the security assessment mission to Haiti that was conducted by the Secretariat in response to the Council's request in its resolution 1944 (2010) of 14 October 2010.

The post-earthquake surge, authorized by the Security Council to meet the needs arising from the large-scale humanitarian operations that had been launched and to the complex nature of the subsequent elections, was very necessary at the time. The current situation, however, affords us an opportunity to think about reducing force levels. Such a reduction would need to be accompanied by a reconfiguration of MINUSTAH in order to ensure an adequate response to current needs, including support for the political process, the consolidation of State authority and State capacity-building, as well as the strengthening and possible creation of institutions responsible for upholding the rule of law.

Since the previous report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council (S/2011/183), issued on 24 March, Haiti has witnessed a historic event with a change in presidential leadership in which one democratically elected Head of State transferred power to a new leader from the opposition. I believe that we should congratulate the people of Haiti for having achieved this important milestone and President Michel Joseph Martelly on his election as the new leader of Haiti.

I also wish to thank the Organization of American States (OAS) and the joint electoral observation mission of the OAS and the Caribbean Community for their support to a successful and significant election. I am particularly pleased to see Haiti being represented by its diplomatic officials in the Council today.

Despite all this, Haiti's political transition has not been without its difficulties. Even before the new President took office and the forty-ninth legislature began, the electoral process was tarnished by a decision of the Provisional Electoral Council whereby it decided to change the results for the winners of

17 seats in the Chamber of Deputies and two in the Senate. Furthermore, discrepancies remain between the text of the constitutional amendments approved by Parliament during the last term of President René Préval and the text that was subsequently published. This is delaying the constitutional reform process and has brought it to a standstill, owing to the decision by President Martelly to reverse the promulgation of the proposed amendments. As a result, the 1987 Constitution remains in full effect.

The greatest challenges to the political process in Haiti, however, are that it has been impossible for the new President to obtain parliamentary approval for a new Prime Minister and, in turn, to form a new Government and draft a viable policy agenda with the assent of Parliament.

Four months after President Martelly took office, and after two failed attempts to have Parliament ratify a Prime Minister-designate, Haiti is still without a Head of Government. Other ministerial appointments are pending, and there is a continuing lack of a very necessary political agreement between the executive and the legislative branches on the main rule of law institutions and key public policies, as previously mentioned.

In recent days, there has been a positive sign with the nomination of Mr. Garry Conille, a long-time United Nations official. It is hoped that Parliament will approve him as President Martelly's first Prime Minister. Information emerging from Parliament indicates that he will most likely be approved as Head of Government. I stress that such approval alone would change the political landscape of Haiti and open up a far more promising future.

In the midst of political paralysis and before the possible approval of a Prime Minister, the humanitarian situation remains of concern. Despite the successes achieved before the earthquake, the relocation of those living in camps for displaced persons has slowed in recent months. At the moment, approximately 634,000 people are still living in camps, and the Government plan to relocate them has enjoyed limited success. While the basic humanitarian needs of displaced persons have been met by the distribution of humanitarian assistance, the sparse socio-economic opportunities and the rising costs of food and oil have exacerbated the Haitians' living conditions. Similarly, the prevalence of such diseases as malaria and cholera remains a serious problem. Although the cholera mortality rate fell in all departments, from 5.6 per cent at the beginning of the epidemic last year to 1.4 per cent in August, it is clear that the epidemic has not disappeared.

In general, recovery and reconstruction activities are progressing, supervised by the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission. We are seeing, however, that much remains lacking. Of the funds pledged by international donors for 2010-2011, only 37.8 per cent have been disbursed. I take this opportunity to appeal to donor countries to honour their donation pledges to ensure that Haiti will have the resources necessary to advance its reconstruction.

There security situation is somewhat calm, but very fragile. Political tension, alongside a precarious socio-economic situation, is generating new tensions in the security situation. The second round of voting in 2011 was carried out without major incident, largely thanks to the assistance of MINUSTAH police and troops to the Haitian National Police. As the Secretary-General's security assessment confirmed, law and order did not totally break down following the earthquake, although there has been a recent rise in crime rates. Undoubtedly, the calm but fragile security situation of recent months, due to the overall political instability generated by the lack of a Government, has led to greater fragility in civic security.

I am particularly concerned over the instability that could arise should the political and socio-economic situations continued to deteriorate. MINUSTAH will have to continue to play an invaluable role in supporting the fight against criminality. In August, the United Nations fell victim to the rising violence. I pay tribute here to Sergeant Serge Kamali of Rwanda, a United Nations police officer who was shot in Port-au-Prince last month and whom I visited in the Santo Domingo hospital before his death on 26 August. The Sergeant's death was the first in two years to be caused by a malicious act, and it represents a loss to MINUSTAH and the United Nations.

Against that backdrop, I should like to highlight the work that MINUSTAH has been doing in key aspects of its mandate and in response to contingent needs since the issuance of the Secretary-General's last report (S/2011/183).

First, the Mission continues to provide support to the Haitian electoral authorities and the political

process. In addition to its substantial technical and logistical support and coordination efforts for the presidential and legislative elections during the second half of 2010 and early 2011, in recent months the Mission has focused its efforts on launching a dialogue with the authorities, civil society and the private sector in support of agreements on governability that will promote the creation or strengthening of institutions necessary to the proper functioning of the rule of law, which is critical to Haiti politics.

The political stalemate between the new President and Parliament, in addition to the absence of a Government, has complicated prospects for progress in this area. Haitian political and civil society leaders continue to clamour for national consensus in key areas, such as the national budget, education, recovery and development priorities, elections and constitutional reform. I add my voice to the appeals of the Haitian political class that we heed the calls for greater understanding and demonstrate greater political will to reach agreement that will undoubtedly help to improve the lives of the Haitian people and reflect clear progress in the consolidation of the rule of law, and hence towards Haiti's complete self-reliance in its development efforts, which is our common aspiration as we work in that dear country.

The tireless efforts of MINUSTAH to facilitate national and local dialogue in order to motivate an exchange of ideas among the Government, civil society, the private sector and other key actors will remain critical in the future. It will also be important to support the electoral process in Haiti, which is preparing for partial legislative and local Government elections in November. In that respect, I stress that electoral reform, including the establishment of a credible permanent electoral council, is indispensable if Haiti hopes gradually to reduce its dependence on international electoral assistance.

Secondly, with regard to the consolidation of State authority, progress has been made, but the Administration's current capacities, the provision of basic services and the administration of justice remain far below the levels necessary if the Haitian authorities are to fully assume their responsibilities for ensuring stability. During the period covered by the report, MINUSTAH continued to provide technical support to increase the capacities of State institutions at both the national level, including Parliament, and at the local level, and to assist in the development of the infrastructure of ministries and local administrative bodies.

In that context, one important priority remains the strengthening of rule of law institutions and the protection of human rights. Progress in this area has been hindered by the absence of a new Government and the lack of agreement on the nomination of four judges, including the President of the Court of Cassation and the Superior Council of the Judiciary — a priority that has long remained unmet. President Martelly has announced that these nominations will be made by early October, and we hope they will. However, the nominations to those vital institutions and other key judicial posts have been marred by controversy and require dialogue and, in particular, political will on the part of leaders. I would say quite frankly that such political will is hard to come by in Haiti.

Parliament recently endorsed 18 candidates, from whom the President must nominate the President of the Court of Cassation and other pending judicial appointments. We hope that these necessary decisions will be taken soon. That would represent a very important step forward in the area of the rule of law, which is fundamental, as I have repeatedly stressed, to international cooperation and MINUSTAH's work in Haiti.

With regard to the strengthening of human rights, MINUSTAH and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights have investigated violations, including extrajudicial executions, arbitrary detention and detainee abuse. Thus 26 local courts have been set up in various parts of the country, which have coordinated their efforts with those of the United Nations country team in order to train judicial actors in the area of gender violence so that they have the necessary legal framework in place to deal with violations of human rights.

With regard to corrections and the penal system, MINUSTAH is providing support to the Haitian authorities in the conclusion of judicial cases, which has led to the release of 260 detainees since March 2011. Continued support and bilateral cooperation with donor countries has made it possible to develop prison infrastructure, thereby helping to increase by 28 per cent the space that detainees have in their cells. Nonetheless, prison overpopulation is a problem, and violations of prisoners' human rights remain a serious

concern. To date there has been no improvement in administrative reform at the national level. Given these challenges, I am convinced that the strategic focus of MINUSTAH will continue to be to support the strengthening of institutions and the rule of law for the protection of human rights and, above all, to contribute to providing greater stability to the country.

This leads me to a third priority of MINUSTAH, mentioned in the report, namely, our support in the area of security and stabilization. I wish to share with the Council the successful joint operations of our military and police personnel in support of the Haitian police to prevent and minimize the activities of gangs and maintain public order, particularly in important areas of Port-au-Prince such as Cité Soleil, Bel Air and Martissant. I should like to recall here Operation Phoenix, carried out in July 2011, which made it possible to detain various gang members as well as fugitives from justice responsible for criminal activities throughout the city.

MINUSTAH has continued its efforts to protect vulnerable groups, carrying out 24-hour patrols in camps for internally displaced persons and providing assistance to victims of sexual abuse and gender-based violence. The Mission is training the Haitian Police to respond to and prevent this kind of violence, particularly against women and children. That support has been reflected in the establishment of a gender and women's affairs coordination office, in cooperation with the Haitian National Police.

There has been significant, concrete progress in the training of the Haitian National Police. Let us recall that its capacity to create and maintain security conditions is one of the fundamental aspects with respect to a reduction of MINUSTAH and the development of a strategy for its eventual exit. May witnessed the graduation of the twenty-second promotion of Haitian National Police officers, whose strength currently stands at 10,000, of whom 783 are women. MINUSTAH continues to provide support in the enrolment and certification process for future promotions as well as in the elaboration of a development plan for the next five years that will replace the current one, whose deadline is December 2011.

The Haitian National Police has continued to support the MINUSTAH structure and to work with other international groups in order to improve the process of recruitment, training and the development of infrastructure. This, however, must change in future if Haiti wishes to gradually assume responsibility for its own security.

As I indicated at the beginning of this briefing, it is the Secretariat's vision, with which we fully agree, that we gradually reduce the MINUSTAH force levels — levels that had been approved as a result of the 2010 earthquake but that now can and should be reduced. The Secretary-General, in a report that Council members have probably already seen, has recommended reducing the Mission's authorized military strength by 1,600 personnel and 1,150 United Nations police officers. That would leave 7,150 troops and 2,300 police.

Such a quantitative reduction should be complemented by a greater emphasis on the qualifications and specialization of police officials. This is particularly important with regard to the creation of a police academy, which will require international cooperation so that it can become an institution of excellence and be an important instrument in the rule of law as well as in enabling Haiti to fight the most sophisticated types of modern crime.

In the coming days, we will be hosting 50 special police officers who are experts in fighting narco-trafficking and organized crime. This is a very important contribution that will qualitatively complement the proposed quantitative reduction, and I believe it is particularly important for Haiti and for MINUSTAH in carrying out its activities.

Finally, I should like to refer to the efforts of MINUSTAH for recovery and development in the long term. The United Nations peacekeeping missions, including MINUSTAH, are not development operations, but they are essential to creating the conditions for long-term development. As such, MINUSTAH is continuing — and must continue — to contribute to sustainable recovery in Haiti.

This year the Mission has worked with the United Nations country team, together with the Haitian authorities and with other international donors, to respond simultaneously to the needs of displaced persons, as specified in the mandate of MINUSTAH, and to make progress in the area of peace. Since July 2010, the United Nations country team has identified and submitted 18 project proposals to the Interim Haiti

Recovery Commission; eight have received funding through the Haiti Recovery Fund, while another three have received funding from bilateral donors. This is promising, but not sufficient to meet people's urgent needs and change their lives for the better.

Likewise, a resumption of the activities of the private sector will be fundamental to the long-term stability of the country. This sector has been weakened by the lack of security and the absence of the legal framework necessary for investment in the private sector.

On a smaller scale, but equally important, MINUSTAH has contributed to recovery in Haiti through its quick-impact projects, through its programme to reduce violence in communities and through its military engineering reconstruction projects. In 2010-2011, the majority of the 229 quick-impact projects were focused on the rehabilitation of public infrastructure and the provision of basic public services in areas where assistance from the Government is non-existent. Various projects have created income for women and other civil society groups, enabling them to develop the capacities of the members of the various communities of the country.

Since the earthquake, a total of 99 programmes for the reduction of violence in communities have been implemented in response to environmental and socio-economic needs. Those programmes include the construction of canals, the installation of public lighting, professional training, and initiatives to provide employment. About 30,000 women and young people at risk have been given temporary employment through those programmes. More than 1,100 young people have been provided access to training programmes and employment in the private sector. In addition to these small-scale initiatives, MINUSTAH and its military engineering units have been able to contribute to the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the country. The military force increased the number of engineers following the earthquake, and that number should be maintained as part of the reconfiguration of the activities of our Mission.

Since April 2011, military engineers have finalized 80 projects, including the removal of rubble from former Government buildings and public institutions damaged by the earthquake, the repair and construction of roads, groundwork for the construction of facilities for dealing with outbreaks of cholera, the construction of storage space and the draining of canals.

I should like to stress that a reduction of the efforts of MINUSTAH in the area of reconstruction and development would represent a setback in this respect, particularly given Haiti's politically fragile situation, and we could see a further deterioration of the security situation. Furthermore, all of the projects carried out by MINUSTAH are primarily aimed at ensuring peace and security, such as providing public lighting in areas where there was none after dark. This is being welcomed and supported because it is a great contribution to the security of the population. Many of them also have a positive impact on development, infrastructure and employment, among other areas. But they are not solutions in the long term.

I must therefore also call on the members of the Security Council and of the international community to help stimulate investment and development efforts in Haiti and to make available to the United Nations country team the resources necessary to contribute to that end. This will be increasingly necessary in order for MINUSTAH to begin to drawdown its military and police presence.

In conclusion, I would like to point out that Haiti and MINUSTAH are today at an important crossroads. The Haitian people have demonstrated great strength and admirable determination in the face of many and varied challenges and catastrophes. The international community can feel proud of its show of solidarity vis-à-vis the Haitian people. I trust that this solidarity will continue. In that regard, I would like to express my gratitude for the commitment and efforts of the men and women serving in MINUSTAH, as well as to the wider United Nations family serving in Haiti.

The situation in Haiti continues to be fragile, and certain reversals could generate a new crisis. The future stability of Haiti, and ultimately its prosperity, will continue to depend upon the political will of its leaders and citizens, as well as the support of the Security Council and the international community as a whole.

I should like to conclude by launching an appeal to all stakeholders involved to continue our commitment to cooperate with Haiti so that the country may achieve the best of futures, which it deserves.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I thank Mr. Fernandez Amunategui for his statement.

I shall now give the floor to members of the Council.

Mrs. Viotti (Brazil): I would like to thank Ambassador Mariano Fernandez Amunategui for his very comprehensive briefing. Brazil commends his much appreciated work to assist Haiti in its efforts towards enhanced stability and concrete progress in key political, economic, social and institutional objectives.

As the Secretary-General notes his report (S/2011/540),

> "Haiti has experienced, for the first time in its history, a peaceful transfer of power from one democratically elected president to another from the opposition." (*S/2011/540, para. 2*)

This is in itself a major achievement. It also brings new challenges. We call on all political actors in Haiti to contribute to the forging of a broad political compact based on a common set of national priorities. That will greatly facilitate continued international cooperation and support to the country.

The humanitarian situation in Haiti has shown considerable improvement, as the number of people living under tents has declined significantly. But the thousands of Haitians still in camps are precisely the most vulnerable. We must redouble our efforts so that housing projects increase in pace and scale. Strong international engagement is still essential to ensure that all pressing humanitarian needs are met. Mitigating natural disasters and preventing cholera outbreaks are still crucial tasks we must all help to complete.

Brazil reiterates its full support to the Haiti Interim Recovery Commission and would welcome the extension of its mandate. In that regard, we hope that its renewal will entail enhanced national ownership of the reconstruction process. In turn, that would improve the dialogue between the Commission and Haitian society. Reconstruction must help to tackle the economic challenges that have long thwarted Haiti's path towards prosperity. That is one of the many ways by which we can assist Haitians not only to rebuild but to rebuild better.

Job creation remains the most urgent challenge. We therefore favour a more strategic vision of the reconstruction efforts, with the expeditious implementation of approved projects and special attention to those that are labour-intensive.

Brazil also welcomes the appointment by President Martelly of his presidential consultative council for economic development and investment. We hope that this initiative will contribute to enhancing the coordination of international cooperation, fully developing Haiti's economic potential and attracting investment, in an environment of stronger democratic governance and the rule of law.

Infrastructure and energy remain key aspects in that respect. Brazil continues to believe that the construction of the hydroelectric plant of Artibonite 4C is a critical project that will boost economic growth and job generation, while providing a clean source of energy for millions of people. We urge all interested partners to rally behind this project so that it can be implemented as a matter of urgency. Brazil will continue to support the development of Haiti, through technical cooperation and economic assistance. Such initiatives pave the way for the sustainable peace and stability in Haiti.

Throughout the years, the experience of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) has provided us with many examples of the benefits of addressing security and development as interlinked challenges. Recent events have confirmed that perception. In July, as mentioned by Ambassador Fernandez Amunategui, MINUSTAH conducted Operation Phoenix in poor areas of Port-au-Prince, with the aim of dismantling resurgent gang and criminal activity. The Operation resulted in lower crime rates and an increase in the level of social assistance, better public services and enhanced economic opportunities for the local population.

Last month, MINUSTAH completed the installation of 208 lampposts in Cité Soleil, in a partnership with the Brazilian military contingent and local contractors. Apart from its economic benefits, that initiative is expected to have a major impact on crime rates in the area and provide enhanced security, especially for women.

Brazil supports the renewal of MINUSTAH's mandate as recommended in the Secretary-General's report. We concur with the proposed drawdown of military and police contingents to pre-earthquake levels, with the understanding that such a measure will

be implemented in a way that does not impact the Mission's assets and capacity to preserve stability in the country.

Brazil also sees a need to initiate a serious debate on the future of the Mission. Our collective reflection should in particular take into account the security situation on the ground as it evolves, as well as the interlinkages between security and development as key components of sustainable peace. It is essential that efforts on the security front be accompanied by even stronger support by the international community to socio-economic development and the strengthening of the institutional capabilities of the Haitian State.

Brazil's commitment to Haiti, bilaterally, regionally and through the United Nations, remains unwavering. It stems from the deep-rooted and long-standing solidarity of the Brazilian people towards our Haitian brothers and sisters. We will continue to assist Haiti, including through MINUSTAH, in its quest for independence, justice and prosperity.

Mr. Osorio (Colombia) (*spoke in Spanish*): Allow me, first of all, to welcome Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mariano Fernandez Amunategui, as well as to thank him for his introduction of a very sober and concise report (S/2011/540), which extensively covered such important topics as political developments and the humanitarian situation, including the full range of reconstruction and security issues, as well as some very important considerations concerning the role and future of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH).

I should also like to express my gratitude to Mr. Edmond Mulet, who led MINUSTAH during a critical time for both Haiti and the Mission. His dedication, experience and efforts were crucial to addressing the complex challenges facing the Mission as a consequence of the earthquake that struck the country.

We are meeting in the Security Council once again today to evaluate the progress made in Haiti and to recommend the measures that should be expanded to achieve stability, well-being and development. First of all, we welcome the democratic process that began seven months ago, which brought His Excellency Mr. Michel Joseph Martelly to the presidency. This was a historic step in Haiti's democracy that will without a doubt make it possible for this sisterly country to strengthen its institutions, consolidate national unity, make progress on the implementation of economic and social programmes in line with the plans and programmes to be decided upon, and bolster reconstruction in response to the 2010 earthquake.

The election of President Martelly and his assumption of power underscored the contribution MINUSTAH has made to maintaining a secure and stable environment, acting as a crucial support helping the Haitian people to better face the numerous political, economic and social challenges before them. However, significant challenges remain in several areas, including in terms of security, as stated by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, following recent events.

We believe that consolidating peace in Haiti still requires continued assistance from MINUSTAH, in particular under the central pillar of its mandate to promote and build conditions of security, well-being and stability necessary for development in a way that gradually reduces dependence on aid. In this context, while the Secretary-General correctly states in his report that conditions are now in place to start reducing the number of troops deployed to pre-earthquake levels, he also spurs us to consider the opportunity to consolidate security and take action to strengthen the central elements of socio-economic development in Haiti.

In our view, if troop levels are drawn down, continuity must be ensured for the ongoing reconstruction efforts. In particular, the achievements made by cooperating countries in the field of military engineering support for recovery and reconstruction activities must be safeguarded. This position is based on our view that security is strengthened when the physical environment allows for greater protection of citizens, starting with services such as electric light, access routes, hospitals and anti-flooding waterways. As stated in the Secretary-General's report, a total of 125 project proposals have been received in this area. The reconstruction support we continue providing to Haiti is therefore crucial for the State to continue carrying out its functions and for the implementation of these projects to be adequately organized.

We are convinced that there is a need to undertake a fresh evaluation of the sort carried out by MINUSTAH prior to the earthquake with regard to the military and police presence in order to plan — instead

of simply returning to pre-2010 troop levels — any adjustment to the force configuration on the basis of needs on the ground. It is of great importance that action be carried out gradually, in keeping with the criteria set out by the United Nations and in consultation with the Haitian authorities so as to avoid any shortfall in this area.

The future configuration of the Mission, as well as the required level of troops, should be determined by the type of operations required. In this context, we note said the statement of the Secretary-General in the report with regard to the incidence of crime and violence in Haiti, and in particular the growing demands on the police force. From an institutional standpoint, this reinforces the need to strengthen the capacities of the Haitian National Police. We could reduce troop numbers if officers became more specialized in specific areas of criminality and in their assigned duties. In that respect, the Special Representative's briefing was very important with regard to the progress that has been made in police training.

With that same spirit and commitment, Colombia has been part of the evolving situation on the ground in Haiti, including through police cooperation and, more recently, cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking. We must also underscore our participation in the mission of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defence of the South American countries involved in MINUSTAH, which visited Haiti from 26 June to 1 July 2011, and in the assessment mission to coordinate cooperation projects in which Colombia is participating.

Shortly, a decision will be made on the future of MINUSTAH, a Mission that we believe has accomplished important tasks. We reaffirm the conclusions reached by the Security Council in its open debate in April (S/PV.6510) led by President of Colombia Juan Manuel Santos, which are contained in the presidential statement adopted that day (S/PRST/2011/7). In it, the Council emphasized that in the case of Haiti security must be accompanied by socio-economic development, and reaffirmed the responsibility of MINUSTAH to support the Haitian State in the areas of the rule of law, good governance, the consolidation of State authority, and the promotion and protection of human rights.

A fundamentally important topic addressed in that statement was the importance of continuous coordination and joint work among the Government of Haiti, the United Nations, the Interim Haiti Reconstruction Commission and other stakeholders in order to achieve sustainable results. To that end, coordination among donors, the Government of Haiti and the United Nations must be guided by a coherent framework aimed at long-term sustainable results.

Today, the Council's long-standing call for political consensus in Haiti, issued when it established MINUSTAH, is more urgent than ever. It is up to the political forces in Haiti to build their own destiny on the foundations of the gains achieved, in order to get on track to a better future. No contribution can be effective without such political will, and no one other than the Haitians themselves can help in this task.

In conclusion, I express the gratitude of my Government for the work carried out by a great number of countries, organizations, institutions and individuals in Haiti, among which I must single out the Haitian people themselves, whose difficult experiences have taught them to overcome adversity and the trials of nature. Keeping alive the world's message of solidarity with Haiti is an obligation, as is the spirit and desire of the Latin American and Caribbean countries to embrace as a brother a nation with which we have historical and geographic links, as well as a moral obligation.

This commitment is in harmony us with the philosophy and spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, which reaffirms the dignity of the human person based on the equal rights of men and women and of States large and small. Haiti, a nation of great values, expects the international community not to falter in this endeavour.

Mr. Mashabane (South Africa): At the outset, we wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Fernandez Amunategui on his appointment as the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Haiti, and to thank him for his statement. We assure him of our support for the United Nations efforts in Haiti.

South Africa would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the people and Government of Haiti on the successful conclusion of the presidential and parliamentary election process in May this year. Even though there were some difficulties initially, Haiti

successfully managed the peaceful transition from one democratically elected President to another. However, this positive momentum, created by the transition, may be lost due to the political differences that have delayed the appointment of a Prime Minster and Cabinet. My delegation agrees with the observation of the Secretary-General in his report that

> "antagonisms between opposing political forces are casting a shadow on the country's recent democratic success and threatening its progress towards lasting stability" (*S/2011/540, para. 55*).

We are concerned that the success of the presidential elections runs the risk of being eroded by the lack of progress in establishing Government. It is therefore imperative that all stakeholders within the legislative and executive branches of Government make the necessary concessions to ensure that agreement is reached to establish a Government. The formation of a Government is essential if Haitians are to lead the efforts to rebuild their country.

In April, the Council adopted a presidential statement (S/PRST/2011/7) in which we recognized the interconnected nature of the challenges facing Haiti. We reaffirmed that security, good governance, the rule of law, the consolidation of national Government structures and development are mutually reinforcing.

While the security situation is relatively calm, South African shares the concerns that the situation could deteriorate if the political disagreement persists. We further remain concerned at the continued high rate of crimes such as murder, rape and kidnapping. This can also erode the stability of Haiti. In this regard, the efforts of the Haitian National Police, the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) and the United Nations country team should be expanded to all areas experiencing high rates of criminal activity.

Cooperation between the Haitian National Police and MINUSTAH is vital to bringing about overall security and stability in the country. We welcome the fact that, in the areas where MINUSTAH and the Haitian National Police have jointly carried out anti-crime operations, criminality has decreased.

We remain deeply concerned at the tremendous humanitarian challenges still facing Haitians, with large numbers of the population — in particular internally displaced persons — continuing to lack access to housing and basic services. It is therefore troubling that a number of non-governmental organizations have had to leave Haiti due to reduced donor funding. This is likely to have a negative effect on the cholera prevention efforts and other daunting challenges facing Haiti, such as the soaring prices of food and fuel. It is therefore incumbent on the international community to continue to support Haiti in its recovery from the various humanitarian disasters that affected it last year. Without such support, the country will not be able to achieve stability and development.

For its part, South Africa remains committed to assisting the people of Haiti bilaterally, through United Nations structures and projects, and through our cooperation with India and Brazil in the IBSA Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation.

South Africa supports the proposed drawdown of the military and police capabilities of MINUSTAH as long as it is gradual and conducted with the cooperation of the Haitian authorities, taking into account their needs and institutional capacity. We also support the recommendation by the Secretary-General that the mandate of MINUSTAH be extended for an additional year so that the Mission can continue with its efforts in support of the political process and the consolidation of State authority.

We are appalled by the allegation of sexual assault by MINUSTAH military personnel. Allegations such as these harm the credibility of MINUSTAH. The United Nations zero-tolerance policy for such actions must be emphasized, and there should be no impunity for those found guilty of such offences. We note that the Government concerned has acted immediately to investigate these allegations.

In conclusion, Haiti has made significant strides towards peace and stability. Challenges remain, and it is imperative that the Haitians, with the sustained support of the international community, work to overcome these obstacles.

Mr. Briens (France) (*spoke in French*): I would like to thank Mr. Mariano Fernandez Amunategui, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Haiti, for his presentation, and I congratulate him on his appointment at the head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). I shall limit my statement to three points.

Our most recent meeting on this issue in April 2011 (S/PV.6510) took place following the second round of presidential and legislative elections in Haiti. A peaceful and historic transition, as noted by the Secretary-General in his report (S/2011/540), indeed took place between two democratically elected Presidents. We should congratulate the Haitian people on this, as well as MINUSTAH for its efforts, which made these elections possible.

Today we call upon the authorities of the country to act with a sense of responsibility and allow the establishment of a Government. Cooperation between executive and legislative powers is never easy, as we all know, but it is the mark of statesmen to put national interests before partisan or individual interests.

Secondly, the international community needs political stability and an established Government in Haiti so as to continue its efforts for stabilization and rebuilding. We know what the challenges are: a calm but fragile security situation; a reconstruction effort that is taking too long; more than 600,000 internally displaced persons; an economy that must be rebuilt; a police force that is still unable to guarantee security throughout the country; a fragile rule of law; an upswing in criminality, particularly in Port-au-Prince; and a cholera epidemic that, after a second spike last June, could become endemic.

The endeavours of the international community for Haiti for so many years — and not just since the earthquake of 2010 — are commensurate with these challenges. In addition to its participation in MINUSTAH, France's aid totals more than €326 million for 2010-2011. More than half of this sum has already been disbursed. The European Union is also providing significant support, and France aligns itself with the statement to be made by its representative.

We will pursue our efforts not in order to keep the country on indefinite life support, but to strengthen State capacities and those of the Haitian people. The determination of the elected authorities to shoulder their responsibilities and undertake the measures necessary will be the best gauge of the staying power of our collective efforts for development in Haiti.

This also applies to the United Nations and MINUSTAH. We will renew the Mission's mandate in the near future. Its means were enhanced so as to rise to the exceptional circumstances created by the earthquake. Circumstances have changed, and we must take this into account. The humanitarian context has changed and the elections are behind us. Therefore, today we can reduce the number of military and civil personnel deployed without endangering either the ability of the Mission to fulfil its mandate or the stability of the country. These are, moreover, the conclusions of the Secretary-General's report.

We cannot ignore the people's feelings with respect to the presence of foreign troops in their country and the wishes of elected authorities. In this context, it is important that the behaviour of soldiers deployed in the country be exemplary. As the presence of the United Nations in Haiti is part of a long-term endeavour, and as we want MINUSTAH to be the last peacekeeping operation deployed in Haiti, we hope that it evolves in a gradual and responsible way.

Mr. Amieyeofori (Nigeria): Allow me to convey our gratitude to Mr. Mariano Fernandez Amunategui for his effective work as Head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) during a very difficult and challenging period for Haiti. We wish him tremendous success in his new assignment and thank him for his insightful presentation of the report of the Secretary-General (S/2011/540).

The end of the presidential elections in Haiti and the transition to another elected Government, despite the acrimony that attended the process, represent a major milestone in Haiti's political development. The need to avoid the pitfalls of the past while striving to heal the wounds emanating from the political process requires the new Government to rapidly consolidate its efforts.

But as President Martelly rises to the enormous challenges of his office, the support of the Haitian people will remain exceedingly vital. The challenges facing the country require Haitian leaders to forge a common bond. More than ever, they must demonstrate willingness to own the process of national recovery. They must commit to peace, democracy and national stability by ending the current political stalemate in the appointment of a new Prime Minister. Indeed, the task of rebuilding the country cannot be successfully accomplished in the current fractious atmosphere.

The implementation of the Haitian national recovery and development plan will require strong and resilient security institutions that will effectively address the increasing menace of armed banditry and

organized crime. The Haitian National Police will need to be adequately resourced to discharge its constitutional law enforcement duties. It will require basic equipment, logistical support and other essential assistance to strengthen its operational efforts and overcome the dire security challenges facing the country. We believe that the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 49 and 50 of the Secretary-General's report will go a long way towards comprehensively addressing Haiti's security concerns.

The international community must also support Haiti in developing the capacity and resources needed for proper border management. The partial withdrawal of MINUSTAH's military and police personnel should neither compromise the current security conditions nor prejudice the Mission's ability to address adjustments to its mandate.

Although much remains to be done to restore Haiti to its pre-earthquake state, it is encouraging that the humanitarian conditions in the country have improved considerably since the recovery efforts began. Undoubtedly, the significant inflow of funds from donors and the international community and pledges received through international aid initiatives played a critical role. The launching of the World Bank-supported housing project and the Government housing initiative to build 2,000 homes in Port-au-Prince will, we hope, ameliorate the current conditions of over 1 million internally displaced persons still living in emergency shelters in and around the capital of Port-au-Prince. We expect that these initiatives will further decongest the over 1,000 internally displaced person sites and provide durable accommodation that will survive the harsh weather.

We would like to take this opportunity to commend humanitarian partners for their efforts in distributing relief materials and coordinating with the Haitian authorities in implementation of the country's priority programmes. Indeed, the United Nations country team and MINUSTAH have facilitated the delivery of a humanitarian response capable of consolidating Haiti's recovery and the implementation of its programmes.

Aware of the persistent challenges, the international community must not remove its focus from Haiti. We must continue in our bilateral and multilateral efforts to assist Haiti to grow faster and better following the devastating effects of the earthquake and cholera epidemic. It would help if donors were to continue to fulfil their outstanding pledges and also respond favourably to the 2011 consolidated appeal of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

While the international community remains vigilant, the Government must assume responsibility and full ownership of Haiti's stability process by advancing the provision of basic amenities and reducing the country's dependence on international support. The role of the United Nations — in particular MINUSTAH, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and OCHA — in leading and coordinating the international efforts in Haiti is most commendable.

Nigeria is pleased that its police contingent is part of MINUSTAH, which has continued to carry out it mandate with distinction under very trying circumstances. I therefore salute the courage, dedication and sacrifice of the gallant men and women of MINUSTAH, as well as humanitarian workers in Haiti. On this score, we welcome the Secretary-General's recommendation that the mandate of MINUSTAH be extended.

Mr. Barbalić (Bosnia and Herzegovina): At the outset, I would like to express our gratitude to Mr. Fernandez Amunátegui for his extensive briefing today and to congratulate him on assuming the position of Special Representative of the Secretary-General. I also wish to extend our appreciation to former Special Representative Edmond Mulet for his important contribution and engagement through a rather challenging period for Haiti.

We commend the first historic peaceful transition of power in Haiti and wish newly elected President Michel Joseph Martelly every success in performing his duties and facing the great challenges that lie ahead.

Bosnia and Herzegovina expresses its concern about the current political stalemate in establishing a new Government and defining a clear constitutional reform process. This political stand-off threatens recent democratic success and any progress towards lasting stability in the country. We call upon Haitian political leaders to strengthen their efforts in bridging the political gap and finding a compromise in order to make progress towards a political agreement. We also extend our full support for the efforts and activities of

the Special Representative aimed at reaching a political consensus.

Although the security situation in Haiti is relatively calm, we remain concerned regarding criminal trends in the aftermath of the earthquake, especially the increase in murders, sexual and gender-based violence, and kidnapping. There have also been cases where children were used as soldiers. We urge the Government of Haiti to take strong measures to prevent such violence and ensure that the perpetrators of those acts are brought to justice.

Bosnia and Herzegovina recognizes the importance of the presence of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) in the country and its activities in maintaining stability and security there, with emphasis on election run-offs and the post-electoral phase at a time when the situation is especially precarious due to possible clashes between political opponents and their supporters.

We commend MINUSTAH for pursuing its strategic security goal of reforming and strengthening the Haitian National Police. The progress in institution- and capacity-building is evident. However, the Haitian National Police still has not acquired enough capacity and strength to guarantee the security of the country's citizens.

More than a year and a half has passed since the devastating earthquake in Haiti, but the Haitians are still suffering the consequences. There are still more than 630,000 internally displaced persons, living mainly in camps. The already harsh living conditions are further aggravated by economic instability and reduced donor funding. We take this opportunity to call upon donors to continue their support to Haiti so that the country can establish stability and security.

We are also concerned by the resurgence of cholera cases, although the mortality rate seems to be slowly diminishing. More efforts by the Government of Haiti and international humanitarian organizations must be put into preventive activities, such as providing sanitation and clean water.

Haitian executive and legislative authorities need to proceed with institution-building, particularly in the domains of security, rule of law and justice. They must also do their utmost to improve the living conditions of Haiti's citizens by providing basic services, housing and education. In this challenging process, the assistance and support of the international community to Haitian authorities will be of crucial importance. We therefore support the recommendation of the Secretary-General to extend the MINUSTAH mandate for another year, with a recalibration of the Mission's role through downsizing the surge capacities and increasing the institutional capacities of the Haitian authorities.

Mr. Moraes Cabral (Portugal) (*spoke in French*): I thank the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Mariano Fernandez Amunategui, and wish him every success in the performance of his duties. I thank him for his excellent briefing. I also offer a special word of thanks to Mr. Edmond Mulet for everything that he has accomplished. I also would like to welcome among us of our colleague from Haiti.

Our debate today concerns the activity of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) over the past five months and also with the situation in Haiti and the challenges that it faces: security, reconstruction, economic and social development, the strengthening of its institutions and the rule of law, and the promotion of human rights — basically the building of a modern democratic State. I shall be brief because the essential points have already been covered in previous statements.

We welcome the democratic transition that has taken place in Haiti. Democracy is being consolidated in the country despite the difficulties. We hope that the stalemate in the appointment of a Prime Minister will soon be overcome so that Haitian politicians will be able to concentrate on the process of reconstruction and development in conditions that will strengthen Haitians' trust in their democratic institutions.

Security has been a central issue in Haiti for a long time. We take note that the Haitian National Police has been strengthened, but its action is "severely constrained by insufficient numbers and a lack of basic equipment and logistics" (*S/2011/540, para. 11*). We feel that cooperation between MINUSTAH and Haitian National Police should be based increasingly on training and institution-building. Peace and security in Haiti are above all the responsibility of the people and authorities of Haiti, an independent and sovereign State. The international community cannot replace these national authorities and can only support the stabilization efforts carried out by the Haitians themselves.

The protection of human rights and the humanitarian situation continue to be of special concern to us. MINUSTAH is continuing to cooperate with the High Commissioner for Human Rights in order to help Haitian institutions to better integrate the protection of human rights in their daily activities. The activities carried out by the Haitian authorities are praiseworthy, given the considerable difficulties, but it appears that additional efforts will be required in the fundamental area of consolidation of the rule of law. The marginalization of particularly vulnerable groups, the significant number of internally displaced persons and gender-based and sexual violence also continue to be a source of major concern.

Much has already been said about the work of MINUSTAH in supporting public institutions, economic recovery, the fight against community violence and the response to the cholera epidemic. I will therefore not address those issues. Nevertheless, it is important that the international community continue its efforts in solidarity with the people of Haiti. Such continued solidarity is necessary to ensure the coordination and coherence of those efforts.

It is certain that in adapting to new challenges and measures, MINUSTAH will continue to play a central role in that context, in close cooperation with the Haitian authorities, who have been called upon to increasingly take charge of their competencies and responsibilities.

In conclusion, Portugal supports the recommendations of the Secretary-General and an extension of MINUSTAH's mandate for an additional year. I would like to assure the Permanent Representative of Haiti of Portugal's support for his goals and for the stability and growing development of his country.

Mr. Moungara Moussotsi (Gabon) (*spoke in French*): At the outset, as previous speakers have done, I would like to express my appreciation for the initiative taken to convene this debate, and to thank Mr. Fernandez Amunategui, Special Representative of the Secretary-General, for his detailed briefing on the work of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). My statement will address the political and security situations, the humanitarian sphere and the rebuilding of Haiti.

On the political front, my country is pleased with the successful conduct of the democratic elections in Haiti, which led to the election of President Michel Joseph Martelly on 20 March. In that regard, we salute the maturity of the Haitian people as well as the support of MINUSTAH and other international partners to them.

My delegation also pays tribute to the recent constitutional amendments and the nomination of the President of the Supreme Court. Nevertheless, we encourage all political actors in the country to continue to work together in order to accelerate the establishment of the Government and the putting in place of the institutional reforms necessary to restore the rule of law and a calm political and social climate. The establishment of the Government will also lead to the resolution of security issues.

Turning now to the security situation, we welcome the essential role played by MINUSTAH's military and police personnel in stabilizing Haiti. Those individuals have also contributed significantly to establishing an efficient handover process to tackle the numerous security challenges, including organized crime, rape, attacks and kidnappings. Along those lines, my delegation continues to be deeply concerned by the number of kidnappings and attacks on MINUSTAH staff. We therefore stand ready to support MINUSTAH at its current levels of military and police personnel in guaranteeing support to the Haitian National Police, in order to ensure their ability to protect internally displaced persons and vulnerable groups.

My country believes that it is also necessary, in the transfer of security responsibilities, to strengthen the training and capacities of police personnel in the various areas of border management and electoral security. We support the implementation of a zero-tolerance policy in all cases of sexual violence. We also support the adoption of the three-year strategic action plan aimed at fighting that scourge.

Turning now to the humanitarian situation, we remain concerned by the persistence of the cholera epidemic in spite of the laudable efforts made to reduce the epidemic's scale. Moreover, the situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the camps remains a great concern for my delegation. In that context, Gabon welcomes President Martelly's launching of a project to relocate internally displace persons from the six main IDP camps in Port-au-Prince.

With respect to rebuilding, many projects have been undertaken since the earthquake. My delegation welcomes the infrastructure and equipment projects under way, as well as programmes being implemented jointly by MINUSTAH and the United Nations country team, in cooperation with the Haiti Reconstruction Fund. Economic recovery — for which we call on the participation of all of Haiti's development partners — will help to generate employment opportunities, which will not only improve the lives and living conditions of Haitians but will also result in a reduced crime rate.

In conclusion, Gabon fully supports the authorized reduction in military and police personnel as a step in the progressive transfer of responsibilities to Haitian authorities. We also support the renewal of the MINUSTAH mandate as recommended by the Secretary-General. For its part, Gabon will continue to support the efforts of the international community in Haiti in order to help the country restore peace, prosperity and stability.

Mr. Zhukov (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): We are grateful to Special Representative of the Secretary-General Fernandez Amunategui for his briefing on the situation in Haiti.

In spite of the difficult challenges faced by the country, it is encouraging that its leadership and people, with the active support of the international community, have been able to progressively stabilize the situation. We hope that President Martelly will continue to adopt genuine steps aimed at the swift launching of a national dialogue process and the sustainability of the current positive trends in the country's development. My country calls upon all political actors in Haiti to demonstrate maximum calm and restraint and to resolve their disputes solely through legal mechanisms.

The international aid provided to Haiti under the United Nations is unprecedented in scale. We welcome the efforts of the United Nations and regional organizations, including the Caribbean Community, to overcome the multifaceted crisis in Haiti.

My delegation shares the conclusion of the Secretary-General contained in his report on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (S/2011/540) that the security situation in Haiti is gradually improving, due in large part to the work of peacekeepers and law enforcement personnel. However, the political, social, economic and humanitarian spheres of the situation in Haiti remain difficult.

National law enforcement bodies are not yet ready to bear full responsibility for the protection of civilians. International efforts to provide comprehensive aid to Haiti, in particular relating to strengthening State institutions, should be continued in order to ensure that, in the future, Haitians can independently resolve all issues related to security and restoring and guaranteeing sustainable development in their country.

Leadership roles on defining priorities in those areas should of course be played by national institutions. All aid to Haiti should be provided based upon unconditional respect for State sovereignty.

Mr. DeLaurentis (United States of America): I would like to begin by thanking Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mariano Fernandez Amunategui for his informative remarks on the situation in Haiti.

The United States supports the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) for another year under broadly the same terms as the 2010 mandate. MINUSTAH has been working tirelessly in Haiti to restore a secure and stable environment, to promote the political process and to strengthen Haiti's Government institutions and rule of law structures, as well as to promote and protect human rights. MINUSTAH has provided vital security and logistical support during presidential and legislative elections, supported programmes designed to strengthen the rule of law and conducted capacity-building work with the Haitian National Police (HNP) through the HNP reform plan.

The United States commends the role of the United Nations in previous elections and underscores the importance of United Nations assistance with the next round of partial national and local elections in Haiti. The United States supports the Secretary-General's recommended reduction of two infantry battalions and the reduction in authorized strength of 1,150 formed police unit personnel, but notes that strong rules of engagement for the remaining MINUSTAH forces will be important to deal with a stable but fragile security situation in Haiti. The United States believes that any determination of the future size of MINUSTAH forces must be based on security conditions on the ground. We commend the work of the

United Nations security assessment team, which led to those recommendations, and we express our hope for continued progress in Haiti.

The United States agrees with the Secretary-General's finding that the Haitian National Police has improved in some respects, but it is not yet in a position to assume full responsibility for the provision of internal security. The United Nations and the HNP jointly need to develop a new iteration of the HNP reform plan of 2006 and encourage Haitian ownership and leadership of the reform effort. We urge the authorities in Haiti to reach agreement to appoint women and men of demonstrated integrity and competence to Cabinet positions. The United States urges the authorities in Haiti to fulfil their pledge to fill all the six vacancies at the Cour de Cassation Supreme Court by 3 October 2011. That pledge by the Haitian President must be fulfilled in order to enable the judiciary in Haiti to function.

We urge the authorities in Haiti to commit sufficient and lasting budgetary resources from their domestic budget to the HNP institutions, especially to build up the systems that will allow it to function on its own. The United States urges the HNP to fully support its Office of the Inspector General and give it the resources to help investigate allegations of wrongdoing at all levels of the Police. The United States urges the Government of Haiti to eliminate impunity and prosecute abuses of power. We believe that Haitian officials who are brave enough to investigate and marshal evidence against those acting with impunity must be allowed to do their jobs under the law without political interference in the due process of law.

We are disappointed with the halt in the vetting process for cadets at the HNP noted in the Secretary-General's report (S/2011/540). The United States urges the United Nations and the HNP to redouble the vetting efforts. We believe that vetting cannot simply occur when a cadet begins his or her career, but needs to occur throughout their careers, at least at every promotion in rank, to be a truly effective prevention tool with respect to impunity.

The United States continues to play a leading role in international efforts to ensure that United Nations peacekeepers, military police and civilian, neither exploit nor abuse the vulnerable people they have been sent to protect. The United Nations has taken several critical steps in recent years to establish and implement a zero-tolerance policy for sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping personnel, including establishing a well publicized code of conduct and creating conduct and discipline units in the field to perform training, carry out initial investigations and support victims. In that light, we are deeply concerned regarding the recent allegations of severe misconduct by some MINUSTAH personnel. We welcome the public commitment of Uruguay to conduct a full investigation in cooperation with the United Nations into the incident.

The Secretary-General recommended retaining the MINUSTAH engineering units that the Council authorized after the earthquake. The United States supports those recommendations. We applaud the military engineering battalions for working within the plans of the Government of Haiti and the civilian development agencies. We note with appreciation the creative collaborations between the civilian experts at the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission and the MINUSTAH military component's tasking team. We note with appreciation the contribution that makes to stability.

Lasting stability of course will come not only through the political and security arrangements but also through the work that major donors are doing to support Haiti's long-term plans for economic development. To that end the United States applauds the recent vote by the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission to approve the Government of Haiti's 16 neighbourhood/six camps project to help internally displaced persons find housing. The use of the neighbourhood returns approach, instead of mere camp evictions, is the type of humane approach we fully support. The United States has adjusted its housing assistance programmes to be fully in line with that Government of Haiti initiative, and we have backed the same neighbourhoods-return approach in our $65 million housing programme disbursement to the Haiti Reconstruction Fund managed by the World Bank. We applaud the work of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the United Nations country team in Haiti to provide experts that helped the Government of Haiti design the programme in a manner that respects human rights.

Mr. Wittig (Germany): I would like to thank Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mariano Fernandez Amunategui for his briefing and we are grateful to him and all the personnel of the United

Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) for their dedicated work.

One and a half years after the devastating earthquake, the people of Haiti are still facing daunting challenges. There has been progress, but we remain concerned about the continued plight of the Haitian population. Despite the successful and peaceful conclusion of the presidential elections, Haiti is still paralyzed by political uncertainty. Political leaders in Haiti urgently need to live up to their responsibilities to end the stalemate and start working together. Restoring the credibility and leadership of the Government as well as the confidence of the Haitian people in their political system is a prerequisite for any real progress. Ultimately, both political and economic success will depend upon strengthening the rule of law in all areas of society. A lack of legal certainty is the biggest impediment to increased foreign investment.

MINUSTAH is playing a vital role in maintaining peace, security and stability in Haiti and must continue to do so. We are grateful to all the troop contributors for their efforts. At the same time we should look into possible adjustments in the size and structure of MINUSTAH personnel in line with the security assessment presented to us.

We are reassured to hear of the serious efforts undertaken by both the troop contributors and the Secretariat to enforce the United Nations zero-tolerance policy on misconduct by its personnel. This is indeed of paramount importance for the acceptance of peacekeeping forces anywhere in the world.

With regard to the humanitarian situation, we welcome the results of the real-time evaluation on the impact of humanitarian action in Haiti commissioned by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. The results clearly indicate the need to improve the link between relief, reconstruction and development activities. It also revealed a critical lack of longer term development perspectives, especially for those 600,000 persons still living in camps and shelters. The International Humanitarian Partnership's field mission to Haiti planned for November will provide participating Member States with an opportunity to consider first-hand the value of United Nations-led multilateral humanitarian action and coordination. As incoming Chair of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Donor Support Group, we encourage all participating Member States to ensure participation from capitals in the field mission.

In concluding, we concur with previous speakers that MINUSTAH's continued presence, with gradual adjustments, still remains a prerequisite for the stability and development of the country and for peace and security in the region.

Mr. Wang Min (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): I wish to thank Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mr. Fernandez Amunategui for his briefing. Since the powerful earthquake of January 2010, with the support and assistance of the international community, Haiti has resolutely undertaken post-disaster reconstruction and strengthened national security and institution-building with positive progress.

Last May, the swearing-in of President Martelly marked a turning point. China wishes to register its appreciation and to welcome him. We also wish to thank the Organization of American States for the positive role that it has played in that regard. At present, Haiti is still faced with daunting challenges in areas such as sustained stability and post-disaster reconstruction. I wish to underscore the following.

First, continuing to advance the political process to form a new Government as soon as possible is one of Haiti's priorities. We hope that the parties will seize the opportunity, strengthen unity, enhance mutual trust, resolve disputes through consultations and consolidate the hard-won gains.

The second point is supporting its post-disaster reconstruction in response to the cholera epidemic. To date, the pace of recovery and rebuilding in Haiti remains slow. The international community needs to keep its attention on Haiti, fulfil its contribution commitments and seek to provide constructive support and to create a favourable environment. International assistance and training projects need to be tailored to local conditions and real needs, taking the views of the Haitian side into full account. We welcome the Secretary-General's initiative to set up a senior-level integrated task force to study the findings and recommendations of the independent panel of experts on the cholera outbreak in Haiti. We hope that appropriate recommendations can be implemented as soon as possible.

The third element is supporting the work of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

(MINUSTAH). China welcomes the contribution of MINUSTAH in helping Haiti to maintain security and stability. China hopes that, under the leadership of Special Representative of the Secretary-General Fernandez Amunategui, MUNUSTAH will actively implement its Security Council mandate and stay focused on helping Haiti to maintain security and stability, advance its political process and play a dual role in strengthening the security sector and capacity-building.

Mr. Parham (United Kingdom): I would like to join others in welcoming Mr. Fernandez Amunategui to the Council and in thanking him for his briefing. The United Kingdom welcomes today's debate to discuss the current situation in Haiti. I would like to touch on three main topics in my intervention today: the current political situation, the role and configuration of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), and the vital capacity-building work required to improve the standard of the Haitian National Police.

We note, with some disappointment, that it has not yet been possible to appoint a new Prime Minister and to renew ministerial portfolios. The impasse risks raising political tensions and undermines the mood of increased confidence that prevailed following the elections and the inauguration of President Martelly. We urge the President and Parliament to show the necessary flexibility and spirit of compromise so that a Prime Minister can be appointed in the near future and Haitians can properly take the lead in the development process.

We note that there appears to be increasing support for a reconfiguration of the Mission's presence in order to respond more effectively to the challenge that Haiti faces. As United Nations Special Envoy Bill Clinton noted in his address to the Council in April (see S/PV.6510), troops may not be the most appropriate means of delivering development objectives on the ground. The United Kingdom has long held that view. We believe that there is growing consensus around the principle that peacekeepers should not be tasked to undertake reconstruction or development roles, which others are better able to perform.

In our view, the continued presence of MINUSTAH's military engineers in Haiti slows the momentum for other actors to step in, stifling, in turn, the development of the civilian private sector. We believe that MINUSTAH's role is to maintain peace and security and to provide an enabling environment in which United Nations civilian agencies, with donor support, are best qualified to lead on reconstruction and development.

There are worrying reports that many ordinary Haitians increasingly see MINUSTAH as an occupying force. There is a risk that its presence could become a barrier to the investment that Haiti so desperately needs. We were therefore disappointed that the Secretary-General's report (S/2011/540) recommended only a partial drawdown of surge forces.

We believe that the continued presence of large numbers of troops is counterproductive and that police officers, whether from the United Nations police or, ideally, the Haitian National Police, would be seen as a more sensitive and low-key presence on Haiti's streets. It is our firm belief that the key to progress is the ability of the Haitian authorities to maintain domestic law and order. As the Secretary-General's report recognizes, a Haitian National Police force that is fit for purpose represents the cornerstone of MINUSTAH's eventual exit strategy.

With that in mind, we welcome the most recent graduation of new police cadets in May this year. The Security Council must now maintain that momentum by empowering MINUSTAH to make the reform of the Haitian National Police its number one priority. In that regard, we look forward to the next iteration of the police reform plan and call on the Government of Haiti to engage fully in what needs to be a joint capacity-building effort.

While that is under way, we agree with the Secretary-General that Haiti will require the continued support of MINUSTAH and international donors to bolster the capacity of its rule of law and security institutions. That means increased investment in development, including through the augmentation of the resources made available to the United Nations country team, which the Secretary-General has made clear is crucial to ensuring that an eventual downsizing of MINUSTAH does not create a vacuum. It is therefore imperative that we all respond and explore how non-military actors, from within the United Nations system and from elsewhere, can best assist Haiti.

The United Kingdom shares the determination of all here today to ensure that the mandate of MINUSTAH will conclude successfully — and success, of course, means that United Nations peacekeepers will not need to return to Haiti. As Haiti enters a new era, it is important that the international community respond accordingly to ensure that it can stand on its own feet. We will continue to work with the United Nations and others to support that.

Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri (India): At the outset, I would like to join others in thanking Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mariano Fernandez Amunategui for his comprehensive briefing on the recent developments in Haiti and for the Secretary-General's report (S/2011/540). Haiti has been making steady, but slow progress towards recovery since the devastating earthquake that struck the country on 12 January last year.

Despite the death of an estimated 300,000 people, including civil servants, and the destruction of the capital, Port-au-Prince, the Haitians have shown tremendous resolve and determination to rebuild their country. The Haitians need the sustained support of the international community in this critical phase of recovery and reconstruction to improve governance, create employment and undertake comprehensive reforms, including in the police and judicial sectors.

The relatively peaceful conduct of the electoral process and the transfer of power following the second round of presidential elections demonstrate the vibrancy of Haitian society. The role played by regional organizations, particularly the Organization of American States, in the later stages of the elections also gave credibility to the entire process. We join others in congratulating the new President, Michel Joseph Martelly, on taking over from the outgoing President, René Garcia Préval, and wish him success in his endeavours to restore political stability and to undertake economic and social reconstruction.

The delay in the formation of the new Government has, however, slowed down the recovery efforts, and could affect the fragile security situation as well. Nearly 634,000 internally displaced persons are living in temporary shelters and depend on assistance for survival. The fact that only 47,000 have left those camps since March underscores the importance of effective administration and the need to accelerate efforts so as to create an environment conducive to facilitating their return.

Reduced donor funding is also affecting reconstruction efforts. Clearly, the confidence of the donor community has been eroded by the political instability at the beginning of the year and the current stalemate in Government formation. Together with increasing food prices and unemployment, those developments make the affected population vulnerable to violence and exploitation.

If Haiti is to recover quickly from the effects of last year's disasters, the political leadership must show resilience in order to achieve much-needed reforms required to improve the living conditions of the Haitian population. It is therefore important that, as a first step, political leaders set aside their differences to reach a compromise on the formation of the Government.

The United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) has played a commendable role since the beginning of its mandate in maintaining overall security and stability. The earthquake and the resultant large-scale humanitarian efforts, as well as the presidential and legislative elections, created new challenges. MINUSTAH made sterling efforts, along with other United Nations agencies, in the immediate aftermath of the disastrous earthquake and also ensured peaceful elections this year.

I also recall the contribution made by the Indian police officers deployed with MINUSTAH, presently numbering 470 in three contingents, two of which were deployed by India after the earthquake at the request of the United Nations. While the role of MINUSTAH will continue to be critical in the near future, it is a matter of satisfaction that Haitian national institutions have been gradually assuming larger roles, with the objective of ultimately taking over MINUSTAH's responsibilities.

Against this backdrop, MINUSTAH should focus its efforts on supporting the political process, capacity-building and the consolidation of Haitian national institutions. We therefore agree with the Secretary-General's recommendation for a partial withdrawal or drawdown of the Mission's post-earthquake surge capabilities. We also support the extension of MINUSTAH's mandate for one more year, as recommended by the Secretary-General.

The outbreak of the cholera epidemic affecting the Haitian population also resulted in wild allegations about its origin. We are happy to note that the independent panel of experts appointed by the Secretary-General to investigate the matter has not found any substance to those allegations. While efforts to fight cholera continue, there is a need to focus on providing clean drinking water and better sanitation conditions to the population so as to avoid regular recurrences of the epidemic.

India made a modest contribution to the efforts of the Haitian authorities to deal with the situation there. In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, India made a cash contribution of $5 million to the Government of Haiti towards relief measures as a token of its solidarity with the people of Haiti. India also contributed $500,000 to the Central Emergency Response Fund, which was put to good use in the earliest stages of recovery work in Haiti.

We have also undertaken a waste management project as part of a joint India-Brazil-South Africa initiative. In addition, at the request of the President of Haiti, the Government of India will support the construction of 500 low-cost housing units.

In conclusion, the continuing support of the international community, coupled with stable and effective governance in Haiti, would help the Haitian people to overcome the problems they are currently facing. It is our hope that Haiti will soon do so and move towards stability and development.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I shall now make a statement in my national capacity.

At the outset, I would like to thank Mr. Edmond Mulet for his services and sacrifices during his tenure as Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), in an era that was characterized by challenges and difficulties. I would also like to welcome the new Special Representative, Mr. Fernandez Amunategui, and wish him success in his tasks during this very critical transition period in Haiti.

Painful tragedies have long dwelled in the collective memory of the Haitian people and will continue to do so. This is particularly true of those witnessed in 2010, which included natural disasters and political and economic crises, starting with the earthquake, which has claimed the lives of 230,000 people and displaced more than 2.3 million to date, and ending with the cholera epidemic, which has taken many lives.

The major steps taken by Haiti to rebuild its democratic system are heartening and give cause for hope. The most recent achievement was the stable and calm conduct of the presidential elections, which led to the peaceful transfer of power to President Martelly. In order to build upon those gains and avoid undermining them, Haiti must appoint a new Prime Minister. We therefore appeal to all parties to do so and to establish a new Government that can face the challenges and difficulties confronting Haiti in the tasks of reconstruction, social and economic development and building State institutions.

We also express our appreciation for the efforts made by MINUSTAH and support the extension of its mandate. We support all efforts to restore human security and rebuild civilian capacity in Haiti. We hope that such undertakings will not be affected by the downsizing of military and police capabilities next year.

In conclusion, I stress the fact that Lebanon stands side by side with the international community in its efforts to rebuild Haiti and establish a permanent and strategic partnership that would lead to a better future for the country. We appeal to donor countries that have provided support to the people and Government of Haiti to continue to do so and to provide relief in all areas.

I now resume my functions as President of the Security Council.

I now give the floor to the representative of Haiti.

Mr. Cazeau (Haiti) (*spoke in French*): On behalf of my Government and the people of Haiti, whom I have the distinct honour of representing, allow me to begin by reiterating our warmest congratulations to you, Mr. President, on your leadership of the Security Council this month, which is full of various events and expectations. We also wish to express our confidence in the Council, which remains dedicated to making the contributions to international peace and security that are so essential for ensuring harmony between people and development.

I would like to personally thank Mr. Mariano Fernandez Amunategui, Special Representative of the

Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) and congratulate him on his masterly briefing. I reiterate the full support of the Government and people of Haiti for his most difficult and noble task.

On 20 January (see S/PV.6471), on behalf of the Republic of Haiti, I expressed appreciation for the cooperation of the United Nations and emphasized the importance of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). The Mission's presence on the ground has significantly helped to supplement the low numbers of Haitian National Police and contributed to its professionalization. As we consider the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (S/2011/540) of 25 August, those feelings continue and will stay with us as we move forward.

At the same time, we are aware that various unspeakable acts have aroused suspicions regarding some Mission staff, and that many Haitians have voiced their criticism. Happily, those issues have been rapidly addressed by the Secretary-General, who swiftly deployed a fact-finding mission on the ground to work with the Haitian authorities and MINUSTAH so as to determine the truth. In that regard, we can only commend Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for taking swift action. Here, I should like to underscore the words of Mr. Gérard Gourgues, a great Haitian jurist and statesman who represented a defendant in a historic and highly publicized trial: "If the truth is to be found at the bottom of a well, then we must go to the bottom of that well to find the truth".

The report before us today shows that the situation has progressed somewhat. I need not recall that since 14 May Haiti has had a new President, His Excellency Mr. Michel Joseph Martelly, elected on 20 March. Unfortunately, the country has yet to establish a new Government, in spite of the efforts being made across the board. This is understandable, as the President does not enjoy a comfortable majority in Parliament, and it demonstrates how democracy is taking root in my country and that each of the three branches of power is playing its role under the Constitution and laws of the country. A third candidate for Prime Minister has been nominated, and formalities in the houses are proceeding apace, which augurs well for the future.

The security problem is not entirely resolved in my country, as we must not forget that many prisons were destroyed in the earthquake of 12 January 2010 and that many detainees escaped to resume their criminal activities. Fortunately, the Haitian National Police, helped by MINUSTAH and community police, have made praiseworthy efforts to apprehend the escapees. We also stress the importance of cooperation with various regional police agencies, which has allowed for the apprehension and repatriation of many of those individuals, who had fled abroad in the hope of evading the long arm of the law.

We note with satisfaction the work of MINUSTAH in areas other than that of support to the police. The Mission participates actively in the creation of jobs for young people, making them less vulnerable to the aggressive temptations of organized crime. Furthermore, its support for various ministries and State institutions, including through its commitment to the rule of law, has been invaluable and we are grateful for it. Certainly, we should like to see the Mission more committed to development, but that is not in the mandate assigned to it under Chapter VII of the Charter. Perhaps Chapter VI would be another option.

With respect to the social realm, significant efforts are under way. Some 20 million people lived in tents following the earthquake; that number has now slightly more than 600,000. This decrease can be attributed to various local representatives who have made temporary and permanent housing available thanks to the support of the Government and the international community. Life is returning to normal, and people are returning to work. It is true, however, that unemployment persists, and that is why the establishment of a Government, with the approval and support of Parliament, is more critical than ever.

The return to school usually happens every year in September, but this year it has been delayed to the first week of October in order to implement a project allowing classroom access for more than 500,000 children who have never attended school. This project is ambitious, of course, but achievable, and will be financed in part by a minimal tax on telephone calls and money transfers. Launched in June, this innovative source of financing has been welcomed by members of the diaspora and the local population, and has already added $4 million to the State coffers. The President's goal of ensuring that all school-age children return to school is important because, if young people are to be

the future of the country, they must first be educated and trained so as to compete and produce.

Haiti is at a crossroads that is most interesting and crucial to its existence. At this crossroads, young people are vigorously claiming their right to participate in the country's public life and reconstruction, and where the needs that have arisen since 12 January 2010 oblige us to support them and to work for them and with them to ensure that their future is better equipped for the transition. However, we cannot do so without peace, security, the protection of lives and property, political and social stability, the rule of law and good governance.

In that regard, MINUSTAH's assistance is indispensable, given its commitments on the ground. We understand that the Mission must one day come to an end and that Haiti must begin preparing itself to shoulder its republican prerogatives and responsibilities. We also understand that a progressive drawdown of MINUSTAH is already desired and envisaged. We believe, however, than an abrupt withdrawal would be counterproductive and create an unprecedented vacuum, particularly given the fact that conditions conducive to the hoped-for large-scale investment and sustainable development are not yet entirely established.

In conclusion, I reiterate my thanks to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for his unwavering commitment to countries in difficulty, including my own. The people and Government of Haiti wish him every happiness and success during his second term in office. I thank all members of the Security Council for their concern for my country, Haiti.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I now give the floor to the representative of Chile.

Mr. Errázuriz (Chile) (*spoke in Spanish*): Chile thanks you, Madame, for having convened this meeting, offering us a further opportunity to consider the situation in Haiti, and the most recent report of the Secretary-General (S/2011/540) on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH).

I should also like to thank the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Haiti, Mr. Mariano Fernandez Amunategui, for his informative briefing, and to reiterate my country's support for his work leading cooperation in that Caribbean nation and to help its authorities in their efforts towards long-term development.

I further reiterate the commitment we made in February 2004 to the stabilization and peacebuilding processes in Haiti, and to MINUSTAH's work in promoting security, stability and the strengthening of institutions. Seven years after MINUSTAH began its work, and despite last year's earthquake, we can see some success and progress. At the same time, alarming uncertainties and serious challenges have arisen in various areas, including the establishment of the rule of law and an effective and productive political and judicial system.

We congratulate the people of Haiti on their recent peaceful democratic elections and on the progress that has been made in the area of security. We call on the political authorities to reach the national agreement necessary to ensuring that the international force can adequately perform its tasks. We also consider it essential to redouble efforts in the socio-economic sphere in order to promote comprehensive development in Haiti.

Political stability and security are crucial to achieving that objective, and we therefore consider it essential that programmes be implemented that can help alleviate current levels of unemployment in Haiti. Any progress made will be sterile if we are not able to mitigate the country's unemployment problem. Chile's contributions to Haiti's socio-economic development are focused on police training, education, child care, rural development, the environment, health and housing. Chile attaches great importance to the training of police in Haiti and reaffirms its commitment to continuing to work with the Haitian authorities in that area. In that respect, we consider it important to define the police model that we wish to implement, as well as the most urgent needs to be addressed. Similarly, as noted by Ambassador Fernandez Amunategui, we believe it important to favour quality over quantity in police training.

We take this opportunity to highlight in particular the ongoing commitment of Latin America to the future of Haiti. Our countries have sought to work together on sustainable and coherent strategies to optimize our contribution to the peacekeeping Mission and to training and cooperation programmes with the Haitian National Police. Our experience has taught us the importance of maintaining a fluid dialogue with the

Haitian authorities and to give priority to projects that can be implemented by local administrations, despite the difficulties encountered. Local participation in the design, implementation and assessment of projects allows the beneficiaries to assume ownership and helps gradually to generate local capacity, consecrating the concept of national ownership and, hence, sustainable results.

Chile agrees with the Secretary-General's recommendation concerning the reduction of troops and police personnel to the levels authorized prior to the earthquake, and concerning the renewal of MINUSTAH's mandate. We also agree that there is a need to begin to develop Haiti's institutional capacities so that it can gradually take over more national reconstruction responsibilities.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate Chile's readiness to continue to cooperate with the international community and Haitian authorities in the search for lasting peace, including full respect for human rights and strengthening the rule of law and democracy, and genuine progress in the level of development for its population.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I now give the floor to the representative of Guatemala.

Mr. Rosenthal (Guatemala) (*spoke in Spanish*): Allow me to thank you, Madame President, for having organized this debate. I would also like to thank the Secretary-General for his report (S/2011/540) concerning recent events on the ground, as well as proposals to address the situation during the coming months. In addition, we would like to welcome the Secretary-General's new Special Representative, Mr. Mariano Fernández Amunategui, and to express our admiration and respect to Mr. Edmond Mulet for his work in Haiti over the past year.

We pay tribute to the resilience of the Haitian population in overcoming a series of external shocks on the heels of the devastating earthquake of January 2010. These shocks have two serious consequences. First, they have created an ongoing humanitarian emergency that threatens the peace and stability of Haiti. Secondly, they have set back the development agenda, which was already seriously compromised even before the earthquake. These setbacks have reinforced the general impression that Haiti is trapped in a spiral of failures. However, there is nothing inevitable about that trend. We believe that Haitians can and must overcome them. They also deserve the support of the international community; for Haiti's failure would also be our failure.

Part of the external support gravitates around the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). It is understood that peacekeepers cannot remain in Haiti in perpetuity. However, in this renewed phase of MINUSTAH, it is important not to abandon Haiti prematurely. The question is how to fulfil our mandate while ensuring that the United Nations does not have to return in the next decade. As we all know, an exit strategy for the Mission had begun to be considered prior to January 2010. The new demands Haiti faces today certainly warrant a continued presence. Nevertheless, we think that the Mission should focus on priority areas tailored to the current state of affairs, with measurable targets and benchmarks and an eye to a future exit strategy.

Among the priority areas that should be considered, political stability is an absolutely critical element. We applaud the historical peaceful transfer of power from a democratically elected President to an opposition successor. However, we are concerned that the taking of key decisions has to date been undermined by a lack of political consensus.

A second obvious priority has to do with recovery and reconstruction. While we cannot return to the pre-earthquake situation, it is still indispensable to go beyond recovery towards economic and political development. Throughout the years, the rule of law, democracy, security and development have been the main areas of focus. Regrettably, they have not all been addressed in an integrated manner or dealt with the same level of commitment and resources. We have learned various lessons, and now understand the importance of building on and complementing existing strategies and programmes. A point of special concern in the report is the slow disbursement of the resources pledged to the earthquake recovery efforts for the period 2010-2011.

In our view, a third priority for MINUSTAH is for the Government of Haiti, along with civil society, to begin to gradually take up some of the activities now undertaken by MINUSTAH. Under genuinely extraordinary circumstances, MINUSTAH undertook new responsibilities at the cost of advancing in key sectors such as those of security and the rule of law. We believe that there is enough support and resources

in both these areas to be able to refocus our efforts. MINUSTAH cannot and should not take on the role and primary responsibilities of the State. We fully support the development of the proposed rule of law compact. We look forward with interest to the next five-year Haitian National Police development plan.

We are proud to have been part of MINUSTAH since its establishment. We will remain committed to both Haiti and United Nations peacekeeping operations for as long as necessary. In that regard, we support the Secretary-General's recommendation to renew the mandate of MINUSTAH for another year. We would like to express our solidarity with MINUSTAH, its personnel and Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mariano Fernández Amunategui. We believe that the Mission's presence is having a profound and positive impact on the future well-being of Haiti.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I now give the floor to the representative of Canada.

Mr. Rishchynski (Canada) (*spoke in French*): I would like to start by addressing my most sincere thanks to you, Madame President, as well as the delegation of Lebanon, for organizing this open debate on Haiti. I would also like to congratulate President Martelly on his electoral victory, and to wish him every success in his term of office. I would also like to welcome the new Special Representative of the Secretary General, Mr. Mariano Fernández Amunategui, whom I thank for his presentation and wish success in carrying out his important functions.

(*spoke in English*)

Today's debate is taking place at a very opportune time. The transition of power from one democratically elected President to the opposition is no small achievement, and carries the potential for many more democratic advances. Canada commends the efforts of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) for its vital contribution to the maintenance of overall security and stability and to the ongoing consolidation of State authority in Haiti. As highlighted in the latest report (S/2011/540) of the Secretary-General on Haiti, there has been some progress on the ground, but daunting challenges persist and recent security gains remain fragile.

Any changes to MINUSTAH's composition or mandate should therefore be carefully considered to ensure that Haiti's stability is preserved and that political challenges are addressed. Canada therefore strongly supports the renewal of MINUSTAH's mandate for another year as recommended in the report. The United Nations peacekeeping presence needs to remain adapted to the needs on the ground. Canada therefore shares the Secretary-General's assessment that the Mission is in a position to begin the process of returning to its pre-earthquake deployment levels.

There is a continued need to support the Haitian State in its most fundamental functions, including maintaining public security, building democratic and good governance and establishing the rule of law. The Secretary-General recommends that the eventual downsizing of the Mission be accompanied by refocused efforts in support of the political process and the consolidation of State authority, as well as by assistance in building the capacity and accountability of State institutions. This is a responsible approach that should guide MINUSTAH's future.

(*spoke in French*)

Canada contributes to MINUSTAH through the deployment of up to 150 police officers, 25 correctional officers and 10 military officers. Canada's contribution to security sector reform and the rule of law also includes significant bilateral initiatives aimed at strengthening Haiti's justice and security institutions. Canada is actively supporting the Haitian National Police through the construction of a new headquarters. In that regard, we must underscore that the support provided by Canada, MINUSTAH and other partners to the Haitian National Police will only bear fruit if the Haitian Government demonstrates its will to strengthen its own police force. I therefore encourage the Haitian Government to allocate adequate resources to the Haitian National Police and to take the necessary courageous decisions with respect to police force staffing and the vetting of candidates to ensure their integrity.

Canada is also funding a series of initiatives aimed at reinforcing border security, addressing sexual violence against women and girls, reforming the prison system, improving detention conditions for prisoners, increasing access to justice for vulnerable populations and restoring the foundations of a functional justice system in Haiti.

Furthermore, our country also takes pride in supporting Haiti in other critical fields to address both

immediate needs and long-term recovery and development.

The link between security and development in Haiti is well known. However, our commitment to continue our efforts in Haiti must now include a much stronger emphasis on political will, good governance and the rule of law. These aspects are crucial for the success of all efforts, whether on the part of Haitians or of the international community.

Canada recognizes that the new President is driven by the political will and energy to achieve the change that is needed so urgently given the insecurity and impoverished economic and social conditions in which most Haitians live. Despite eight United Nations interventions and billions of dollars of international assistance over two decades, Haiti is still one of the poorest countries in the world.

Change does not occur overnight. All political actors must commit to achieve sustainable progress. While political challenges remain, we hope that the new Government will soon be up and running. It is crucial for the State to continue efforts to strengthen democratic practices and institutions and to bring an end to impunity and corruption. In that context, we encourage political actors to enact constitutional reform; work towards the creation of a permanent electoral council; strengthen political parties; appoint judges and a head to the Cassation Court; and establish a Conseil supérieur du pouvoir judiciaire. We also recall that elected officials have a responsibility to the population that chose them as their leaders with the hope of seeing tangible results.

This assessment explains why Canada strongly supports the Secretary-General's proposal for the development of a rule of law compact. This could be a major step towards improving governance and the rule of law in Haiti. Canada intends to plan an active role in the implementation of this initiative. Canada also welcomed the fact that President Martelly included the rule of law as a priority for his presidency. We stand ready to support and assist him in this endeavour, which sends a crucial and encouraging political signal.

(*spoke in English*)

As international partners, we need to hold each other to account and make good on our promises to the Haitian people. We also need to be clear about the international community's expectations, and that Haitian leaders will do the same.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I now give the floor to the representative of Spain.

Mr. De Laiglesia (Spain) (*spoke in Spanish*): At the outset, I wish to thank the Lebanese presidency for having organized this debate and allowed us to participate in it.

I wish to take this opportunity to welcome the presence of the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ambassador Mariano Fernández Amunategui. I thank him for his detailed briefing and wish him the greatest success. He can rest assured of Spain's full support.

I would also like to fully associate myself with the statement that will be delivered on behalf of the European Union. I should now like to make some remarks in my national capacity.

This is a extremely important moment in Haiti's recent history. For the first time in its history, there has been a peaceful transition of power from one democratically elected President to another, formerly of the opposition. President Martelly won significant popular support. The country is hopeful for a change for the better. It will not be easy. The challenges lying ahead are enormous and leave no room for delay.

More than four months have passed since President Martelly took office; yet a prime minister has still not been appointed and no Government has been formed. This is hard to understand. We share the hope expressed by the Special Representative and other speakers that this situation can be rapidly resolved as soon as possible, for the country is in need of a Government that can take decisions and the international community needs an interlocutor to work with in implementing those decisions. We urge there to be constructive institutional dialogue between the executive and legislative branches. We appeal to the sense of responsibility of all of those in whom the Haitian people have placed their trust. The public interest must prevail.

While the security situation has, fortunately, remained calm, we all know that this is only a relative calm given that the signs are not entirely positive. On the on hand, criminality has continued to grow. On the other, there is a heightened risk of social unrest

resulting from the socio-economic and political situation in the country.

As noted in the Secretary-General's most recent report (S/2011/540), the Haitian National Police is still not ready to take over full responsibility for internal security. It is therefore crucial that the pace of the process of reforming and strengthening the Haitian National Police be stepped up, both in terms of personnel and resources.

The humanitarian situation remains fragile. There are still 634,000 internally displaced persons in the camps. That is a lot — indeed, too many. Unfortunately, the pace at which this number was being reduced has slowed significantly, with only 47,000 returns since March.

Cholera continues to pose a serious threat. In May and June, there was a spike in the epidemic. The death rate has gone down, but the incidence could rise. The total number of cases continues to be very high.

With regard to reconstruction and development, it is clear what has to be done. Putting it into practice is, obviously, more complicated. We have a strong basis for doing so, following the international donors' conference held in New York last March. First of all, we must all honour our own pledges. According to the report of the Secretary-General, as has been previously mentioned, only 37.8 per cent of the funds promised for the 2010-2011 biennium have been delivered.

We also have appropriate tools at our disposal, including the Haiti Interim Reconstruction Commission and the Haiti Reconstruction Fund. We recently supported the extension of the Commission's mandate for another year, until October 2012. We are acutely aware that interim means temporary. We have committed to improving its internal functioning and to creating conditions to allow it to be fully transferred to Haitian hands as soon as possible.

With regard to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), we share the assessment of the Secretary-General and support his recommendation that the Mission's mandate again be extended for another year, up to 15 October 2012, while its size is gradually reduced. The reduction proposed by the Secretary-General seems to us realistic, as does the proposal that it be partial and gradual. We would therefore urge the members of the Council and the Group of Friends to have a favourable view of these recommendations by the Secretary-General.

The continuation of the presence of MINUSTAH in the medium term is necessary, we feel. We know that some Haitians are asking for its withdrawal so as to fully recover the sovereignty of their country, and it is true that some mistakes have been made, both in action and omission, but they have been isolated and infrequent. What is important is to correct those mistakes and to eliminate the factors that allowed them to take place. We know that the majority of the Haitian people appreciate the work of MINUSTAH and value — as do we — the generosity of contributing countries, the majority of which are Latin American, as they are best placed to know the country and its particularities. I would like to pay them a well-deserved tribute in the Council.

We applaud the excellent stabilization, humanitarian, reconstruction and development work carried out by MINUSTAH in difficult conditions. We should intensify our efforts to strengthen the rule of law. Without legal security or judicial and prison systems that are effective, and without an adequate revenue collection system, the development of Haiti will not be sustainable. We have expressed and reiterate our support for a rule of law compact, as proposed by the Secretary-General.

Spain's commitment to the Haitian people is solid and consistent with the values that we hold. We are the third largest bilateral donor. At the conference held in New York, Spain committed to contribute to the reconstruction of the country with $346 million, and we have already disbursed 68 per cent of this. We participate in the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission and we are part of the consultative group of the Economic and Social Council. We will also be joining the Advisory Council for Economic Development and Investment recently created by President Martelly. We also maintain a police contingent within MINUSTAH. As I said, our commitment is firm, and we have repeated this on many occasions, including in the biannual debates held by this Council. This is what we told President Martelly during his visit to Spain on 7 and 8 July 2011, his first visit to a foreign country after his election. Monday will be another opportunity to tell him this again, during the Haiti partners' meeting.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I now give the floor to the representative of Argentina.

Mr. Argüello (Argentina) (*spoke in Spanish*): First, allow me to congratulate you, Madam President, on presiding over the Security Council for September. As we always do, we would like to say that we are grateful to be able to participate in meetings of the Security Council, in this case to analyse the current situation of and challenges facing the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) in light of the most recent report of the Secretary-General (S/2011/540). Allow me, first of all, to welcome among us today Mr. Mariano Fernández Amunategui. When that distinguished Chilean official was appointed as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Haiti, Argentina felt that he was representing us. He fully represents us all, we are sure. Despite the obvious difficulties that he will have to face in the future, we are sure that he will be able to fulfil his task successfully, namely, by achieving the objectives of the international community in Haiti.

My delegation would like to associate itself with the statement be read shortly by Ambassador José Luis Cancela, the Permanent Representative of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, on behalf of the Group of Friends, so I am just going to share a few brief additional thoughts with the Council.

Allow me to reaffirm, therefore, Argentina's firm commitment to Haiti's institutional stability. This has been evident over the past 17 years and can be seen today in our continued participation in MINUSTAH and in technical and bilateral cooperation with the Haitian Government.

As the Secretary-General pointed out in his report, my delegation believes that MINUSTAH continues to be a decisive factor for finally establishing a secure and stable environment in Haiti. Likewise, we believe that the Mission contributes in a special way to maintaining peace and bringing about recovery and reconstruction of the country following the 2010 earthquake, while also providing essential support to the electoral process.

For this reason, Argentina supports the extension by one year of the mandate of the Mission. Its presence continues to be required by the Haitian Government. While we support this renewal, my delegation also feels that it would be possible, as suggested by the Secretary-General in his report, to reduce the number of troops and to redirect the efforts of the Mission towards the development of institutional capacity and the strengthening of the Haitian State without undermining security and stability in Haiti.

Argentina realizes that the political and social situation in Haiti continues to be a complex one, but we would like to stress the achievements since the earthquake, particularly in the area of strengthening democracy with the holding of peaceful elections and the peaceful passing of power from one democratically elected leader to another one who belongs to the opposition party. This further underlines the important contribution that the military component of MINUSTAH makes to reconstruction, a task that should be given adequate funding through the Mission's budget. In that respect, my delegation feels that it is necessary to analyze future aims in greater depth in order to develop an orderly strategy for gradual withdrawal that will meet the needs of the authorities and people of Haiti and will address the situation of the country in terms of security and its interrelationship with sustainable development. In that respect, Argentina feels that the strengthening of the institutional capacity of the Haitian Government in accordance with national priorities and in the framework of appropriate coordination of international systems by the United Nations should be an essential component of that strategy. Furthermore, Argentina believes that institutional strengthening, among other aspects, in the area of the administration of justice, the promotion and protection of human rights and economic and social development is the key for fulfilling the mandate of the Mission.

I conclude by stating, as my delegation has said on many occasions in the Council, that the objective of our work in Haiti is for the presence of the United Nations and of the international community not to be needed anymore owing to the ability of the Haitian authorities themselves take care of their economic and social development in that they have strengthened their own political institutions.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I now give the floor to the representative of Uruguay.

Mr. Cancela (Uruguay) (*spoke in Spanish*): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Group of Friends of Haiti, namely, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Peru, United States and my country, Uruguay. I would like to congratulate you, Sir,

and the delegation of Lebanon, for organizing this debate to enable us to discuss the most recent report of the Secretary-General (S/2011/540) on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH).

The Group of Friends welcomes the presence amongst us today of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Haiti, Ambassador Mariano Fernández Amunategui, and we thank him for his broad ranging briefing. We would also like to underscore his appointment and thank him for having assumed the difficult task of leading the efforts of the United Nations in Haiti in a critical moment in the history of this country. As is indicated in the report of the Secretary-General, for the first time in its history, Haiti has seen a peaceful transfer of power between a democratically elected president and another from the opposition. On behalf of the Group of Friends, I would also like to thank Mr. Edmond Mulet for his tireless work as Special Representative of the Secretary-General and thank the entire staff of MINUSTAH for their dedication and selfless sacrifice. I would also like to express our firm support for MINUSTAH and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in his attempts to improve stability, security and governance in Haiti.

At this crucial moment, the Group of Friends of Haiti once again expresses its continued support to the Government and the people of Haiti as they rebuild their country, consolidate peace, democracy and stability, and promote recovery and sustainable development. The Group expresses its satisfaction at the improvements achieved in the overall security situation. However, we recognize that political stability is essential in order to stay the course towards stabilization and reconstruction. The Group of Friends of Haiti therefore encourages representatives of the executive and legislative branches of the Government to work in concert in order to meet the aspirations of the Haitian people in accomplishing the reforms.

The Group is prepared to support Haitians in their recovery and in the implementation of the Haitian Government's strategy, which will transform projects into realities, in close cooperation with the country's authorities and MINUSTAH. The Group of Friends of Haiti would also like to stress the importance of cooperation between the international community and the Government of Haiti in meeting the needs of the Haitian people, particularly to help the more than 600,000 internally displaced persons living in more than 1,000 locations, as mentioned by the Secretary-General in his report.

In that regard, the Group of Friends recognizes the efforts of the international community of donors and calls upon them to meet their commitments without delay. The Group also shares the concern expressed by the Secretary-General in his report with regard to the existence of sexual and gender-based violence in the districts of Port-au-Prince, particularly in internally displaced person camps, which is a problem that requires concerted and continuous action.

The Group of Friends of Haiti would like to stress that security and development are very closely interrelated and are mutually reinforcing. Taking this factor into account, there is a need for security that goes hand in hand with economic and social development. At the same time, the Group would like to stress that there can be no genuine stability or sustainable development in Haiti without the strengthening of its democratic institutions.

In that context, the Group of Friends of Haiti would like to stress the importance of promoting the rule of law by strengthening Haitian institutions. We would also like to reiterate the responsibility of MINUSTAH to support the Haitian State in the areas of the rule of law, good governance, the extension of State authority and the promotion and protection of human rights, in conformity with its mandate.

The Group of Friends of Haiti reiterates the need for Member States and other interested parties to continue to support Haitian authorities in strengthening the basic structures of Government and in the implementation of the Haitian Government's plan of action for recovery and national development as an efficient and coherent working framework.

Finally, given the enormous challenges that Haiti still faces and the fundamental support provided by MINUSTAH, the Group of Friends of Haiti reaffirms the need to extend the mandate of MINUSTAH for one more year in order to allow the Mission to continue to meet its responsibilities in the current situation. The Group of Friends of Haiti also shares the assessment of the Secretary-General that a reduction in the military and police capacities would not undermine the progress that has been achieved to date in the area of security and would not affect the capacity of MINUSTAH to carry out its assigned functions. In the next few days, the Group will present a new draft resolution on the

mandate and capacities of MINUSTAH for the consideration of the Security Council.

Having come to the end of my statement on behalf of the Group of Friends of Haiti, allow me to make a few brief comments in my national capacity with regard to the Uruguayan contribution to MINUSTAH.

Currently, Uruguay maintains a deployment of 1,124 men and women, military and police, in MINUSTAH. Since the beginning of the Mission, in 2004, 10,000 Uruguayan men and women, working through the United Nations, have contributed their efforts to help to forge stability and a prosperous future for Haiti. Eight of them lost their lives in the service of the Mission.

The Government and the people of Uruguay feel extremely ashamed at the complaints of presumed misconduct and abuse and sexual exploitation on the part of five members of the Uruguayan contingent in MINUSTAH deployed in Port Salut. We have emphatically expressed our rejection and indignation in the light of these facts.

In view of this lamentable situation, the Uruguayan Government has reacted rapidly, drastically and unambiguously. We have designated one of our most high-ranking military officials to conduct investigations. He is currently on the ground and has expressed his willingness to carry out the investigation in close cooperation with the Office of Internal Oversight Services. He has also taken the step of referring the case to the ordinary criminal justice system of my country.

This serious episode affects the image not just of Uruguay but also of the United Nations. Nevertheless, the Government of Uruguay is determined to carry out a full investigation and to take any appropriate measures in the framework of the impartial application of justice and guarantees of due process. That is our commitment to the people and the Government of Haiti, to the United Nations system and to our own people.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I now give the floor to Mr. Pedro Serrano, Acting Head of the Delegation of the European Union.

Mr. Serrano (*spoke in French*): In the spirit of brevity, I shall read out an abridged version of the European Union statement, the full version of which is being distributed in the Council Chamber.

The candidate countries of Croatia and Montenegro, the countries of the Stabilization and Association Process and potential candidates of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia, as well as the Republic of Moldova and Georgia, align themselves with this statement.

I should first like to welcome the presence of the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Mariano Fernández Amunategui. I wish him every success in carrying out his duties. I also pay tribute to his predecessor, Mr. Edmond Mulet, for the services he provided during an extraordinarily busy time.

We are pleased that, since our last debate in this Chamber on this issue (S/PV.6510), the country has, for the first time in its history, seen a peaceful transfer of power from a democratically elected President to another from the opposition. Nevertheless, it is regrettable that, several months after the election of President Martelly, political negotiations have not led to the effective appointment of a new Prime Minister and the establishment of a new Government. Political stability and the resolute action of a competent Cabinet are crucial to providing new momentum to the country's reconstruction efforts. We encourage all parties to accelerate consultations and to work to establish a ministerial Cabinet that will be ready to rise to the challenges at hand.

Turning to the security situation, while on the whole the situation has remained calm during the past few months, it could deteriorate given political tensions and frustration among the people. Indeed, while the Haitian National Police has gradually improved in effectiveness, it does not yet seem ready to fully guarantee internal security in the country. Appropriate transfer of expertise and the strengthening of institutions tasked with applying and enforcing the rule of law and to ensure better protection of vulnerable groups are, in our view, the priorities that must be addressed immediately, with the essential support of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH).

MINUSTAH continues to play a primary role, and the European Union warmly welcomes the recommendations of the Secretary-General on extending its mandate. The European Union also notes

the recommendations of the Secretary-General for a partial withdrawal of personnel.

Finally, the European Union deplores the allegations of sexual abuse recently made against certain members of MINUSTAH and calls upon the United Nations to investigate those matters as quickly as possible. Along those lines, I take note of the declaration just made by the Permanent Representative of Uruguay.

The European Union remains firmly committed to standing side by side Haiti in its reconstruction and development process over the long term. The financial commitment made by the European Union at last year's international conference is a perfect witness to that.

In order to better satisfy the various identified priorities, we have re-evaluated our programme for 2011-2013 in cooperation with member States and in close cooperation with the Haitian authorities. Infrastructure, governance, decentralization, health and education, food security and rural development remain our main areas of action. We also continue to provide budgetary support to ensure priority expenditures. The European Union will continue to provide substantial humanitarian aid in 2012. It is also essential for reconstruction and development projects to strengthen the resilience of both the Haitian population and public infrastructure in confronting natural disasters.

Finally, we highlight our support for the principle of the gradual transfer of the coordination role of the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission to the Government of Haiti, which should go hand in hand with the strengthening of national capacities. In that context, we support the extension of the Commission's mandate and all initiatives aimed at strengthening its effectiveness.

In conclusion, our role as the international community is to help the country to rebuild itself better. The European Union has demonstrated that it is able to turn its promises into tangible reality by working closing with the national authorities and the United Nations family in Haiti.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): There are no further speakers inscribed on my list.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.6619

Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6619th meeting

Friday, 16 September 2011, 3 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Salam	(Lebanon)
Members:	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Barbalić
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	China	Mr. Li Baodong
	Colombia	Mr. Osorio
	France	Mr. Araud
	Gabon	Mr. Messone
	Germany	Mr. Wittig
	India	Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri
	Nigeria	Mr. Adamu
	Portugal	Mr. Moraes Cabral
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	South Africa	Mr. Sangqu
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Ms. Rice

Agenda

The situation in Liberia

Twenty-third progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Liberia (S/2011/497)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

11-50062 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.30 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Liberia

Twenty-third progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Liberia (S/2011/497)

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Liberia to participate in this meeting.

On behalf of the Council, I welcome His Excellency Mr. Toga Gayewea McIntosh, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Liberia.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2011/576, the text of a draft resolution submitted by Gabon, India, Nigeria, South Africa and the United States of America.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2011/497, the twenty-third progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Liberia.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, France, Gabon, Germany, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 2008 (2011).

I will now give the floor to those members of the Council who wish to make statements after the voting.

Mr. Araud (France) (*spoke in French*): My delegation voted in favour of the draft resolution because, naturally, we support the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). We support UNMIL's work in Liberia, which is particularly necessary as the elections approach. We think a mid- and long-term presence of the United Nations in Liberia is necessary to complete the peacebuilding work that has been successfully conducted in that country.

We call on Liberia to redouble its efforts during the transition process to achieve an effective transfer of UNMIL tasks to the national authorities, particularly in the sphere of security. Moreover, the Security Council must responsibly manage the peacekeeping missions that it mandates. The missions must be adapted to the needs of the countries in which they operate. UNMIL, in a country that has been at peace for nearly eight years, is no exception to that principle of good management.

Also at stake is the capacity of the Security Council to respond to new theatres of conflict that are emerging elsewhere on the continent, such as in the Sudan, which require more Blue Helmets, more logistical support and more financing. It is important to regularly review all of our missions and to be able to adapt them, both at the top and the bottom, so as to make best use of our not unlimited resources. For that reason, we fully support the Secretary-General's recommendation, contained in paragraph 73 of his twenty-third progress report on UNMIL (S/2011/497), for a thorough review of UNMIL, its mandate, its configuration and its military and police strength by 31 May 2012 at the latest, based on the Secretariat's proposals that are expected on 30 April 2012 at the latest. This point could have figured in the new UNMIL mandate.

When the elections are over and the President is inaugurated, we call on the Secretariat to immediately send a team to Liberia to conduct, as the Secretary-General himself suggested, a review of UNMIL's format. The Security Council will then have to take action on this issue in the weeks following the receipt of the proposals, between now and the end of May 2012. We hope that the major progress achieved by Liberia will permit the withdrawal of UNMIL's military component.

Mr. Wittig (Germany): Germany welcomed Liberia's progress in peace consolidation and further stabilization, and at the same time supports the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) and the extension of its mandate for a further year. In view of the upcoming elections, UNMIL's presence is surely still necessary. However, we hope the progress made towards stabilization in Liberia will allow us in due time to consider further troop reductions.

In this regard, we support the assessment mission that will visit Liberia in early 2012. We hold the view that the Council should then swiftly review the police and troop strength of UNMIL, taking into account the findings of the assessment mission. The review should take place before the end of May 2012.

It is important that UNMIL and Liberia keep making progress in transferring security responsibilities from UNMIL to national authorities. The time is ripe for this transition, and the Liberian authority must not lose more time in taking over complete responsibility for security and stabilization in the country. This is also a question of responsible management of scarce resources.

Mr. Moraes Cabral (Portugal): Today's resolution reaffirms the strong commitment of the international community to pursue its assistance to Liberia in its remarkable efforts towards peace and democracy. The United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) has played and will continue to play a central role in the process of addressing remaining challenges and capacity gaps, especially in the security sector, which is vital for a successful transition.

We also believe that the upcoming elections will constitute a great challenge and a crucial milestone for Liberia, and that, as mentioned earlier this week by Special Representative of the Secretary-General Ellen Løj, it will also have a strong impact on the various dimensions of the transition.

As in every scenario where the United Nations has a presence, it is the Security Council's duty to carefully monitor the evolution of the situation in order to ensure that the objectives and means available reflect both the reality on the ground and the evolving priorities of national authorities. That is why we think that today's resolution and our collective action in Liberia would have benefited from an explicit commitment on the part of the Council to hold new consultations on UNMIL in May 2012, based on the outcome of the technical assessment mission scheduled for early next year, and we hope that we will be able to work within that time frame. Indeed, we believe that we must preserve our capacity to act swiftly and to adapt, if necessary, to new circumstances in Liberia.

Ms. Rice (United States of America): We are pleased to note that Liberia has come a long way, both with the support of the international community and, especially, through the great efforts of the Liberians themselves to foster peace. We are committed to ensuring that peace is sustained. West Africa remains a volatile region, in which, unfortunately, the Council has had to authorize repeated interventions. The nations of West Africa are interdependent. Their economies will rise together as stability takes hold, or fall together if conflict, chaos and refugee crises repeat themselves.

Resolution 2008 (2011) continues to support Liberia as it strengthens its own State capacity for security and the rule of law. We were not ready to predetermine Security Council actions on so important a matter as the drawdown of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), given the uncertainty surrounding the election and tensions in the region.

As Special Representative of the Secretary-General Løj noted in her remarks to the Security Council (see S/PV.6610), Liberia's elections come at a critical time for the subregion, with the recent crisis in Côte d'Ivoire and the subsequent increase in security and humanitarian concerns along the Ivorian border. The past eight years have been the longest period of unbroken peace for Liberia in the past three decades. Most important, the elections are the first to be organized and run by Liberians.

Now is not the moment to impose rigid timelines on UNMIL. We hope and expect to be able to drawdown UNMIL's military presence next year. Indeed, we have drawn down UNMIL's authorized military strength in the past from 15,000 to far fewer than 8,000 today, but any further changes to UNMIL's configuration must be a decision that is made based on the facts on the ground, not on any artificial deadline.

With Liberia's elections only four weeks away, now is the time to demonstrate unity — and we are glad that the Council has. With this resolution, we are expressing our solidarity with the people of Liberia and the region, while committing to a serious review of UNMIL's mandate, as conditions allow.

Sir Mark Lyall Grant (United Kingdom): The United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) has played a pivotal role in Liberia in the eight years that it has been working in partnership with the Government and people of Liberia. The United Kingdom would like to thank the troops, police and civilian staff of UNMIL for their dedication and hard work under the excellent leadership of Special Representative of the Secretary-General Ellen Margrethe Løj. It supports the renewal of UNMIL's mandate.

The elections next month, the second such elections since peace was established, mark a key milestone for Liberia's democratic development. Preparing for them has rightly been a priority.

The United Kingdom would like to see similar effort devoted to other issues critical to Liberia's future stability, such as national reconciliation and land reform. Urgent progress on the establishment of national security forces capable of maintaining law and order and the planning and implementation of the transfer of responsibilities from UNMIL to State authorities will also be critical.

The United Nations technical assessment mission scheduled for early 2012 will be an excellent opportunity to make a comprehensive assessment of the situation in Liberia. That will inform the Council's decisions on changes to UNMIL's future tasking. We are therefore disappointed that resolution 2008 (2011) did not take up amendments that a number of Security Council members put forward and that followed the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in his report (S/2011/497) and had the support of the host Government, namely, that the Council review the authorized military and troop strength by 30 May 2012, based on the findings of the technical assessment mission. We regret that, given the time available to us before the 30 September expiry of the mandate authorized by resolution 1938 (2010), a more serious and committed effort was not made to address such concerns.

The United Kingdom remains committed to leading efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of United Nations peacekeeping worldwide, ensuring that peacekeeping missions support political processes and help to deliver long-term stability. We do not expect any peacekeeping mission to be exempt from regular review by the Council, and will continue to work to ensure that all missions are configured and resourced in line with that purpose and that their mandates and configurations are adjusted in a timely and responsible manner.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I now give the floor to the representative of Liberia.

Mr. McIntosh (Liberia): I did not anticipate that I would have a second opportunity to meet with the Council within 72 hours. I therefore consider it an honour and a privilege to be able to personally thank the Council, on behalf of the President, Mrs. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, the Government and the people of Liberia for the action that the Council has just taken in extending the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) for another 12 months.

It is our understanding that the Council's deliberations during these past two days on the time frame of the extension have been tedious, time-consuming and objective. That makes the final decision all the more valued and appreciated. We are heartened by the unanimous vote that has just been taken.

As I mentioned in my remarks a few days ago (see S/PV.6610), Liberia faces many challenges, and UNMIL's presence contributes immensely to help us resolve them. We know that the Liberian Government and people will have to continue the march forward towards ensuring sustainable peace and sustained development long after the peacekeeping component of the United Nations work in Liberia has ended.

As I also mentioned, we are very keen to ensure that national capacity exists at appreciable levels in critical sectors so that a transition from UNMIL to national authority is as smooth and seamless as possible.

As I also mentioned, we welcome the arrival of the United Nations technical assessment mission by the end of April 2012. In that regard, I thank the Council for its prudent decision, and affirm that the Government will do all within its power to use judicially the extended period to accelerate transition planning and implementation. We will continue to count on the Council's support in all our endeavours in this period of our partnership.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 3.55 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Libya

Letter dated 15 September 2011 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/578)

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Libya to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2011/580, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, France, Gabon, Germany, Lebanon, Portugal, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2011/578, which contains the text of a letter dated 15 September from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, France, Germany, Gabon, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, South Africa, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 2009 (2011).

I shall now give the floor to members of the Council who wish to make statements following the voting.

Sir Mark Lyall Grant (United Kingdom): May I take this opportunity to welcome Ambassador Dabbashi to the Security Council this afternoon.

The Libyan people have shown remarkable courage and perseverance over the past six months in standing up for their rights and creating the conditions under which they can decide their own future, a future that the National Transitional Council (NTC) has made clear will belong to all Libyans, not only the privileged few, and in which the fundamental rights and freedoms of all will be promoted and protected.

The NTC has set out a vision for the political transition in Libya and has already taken positive steps towards achieving it. We welcome the Libyans' resuming their seat in the United Nations and look forward to the establishment of an interim Government.

There exists now an opportunity for Libya and its people to achieve their full potential. It will not be easy. Huge challenges remain on security, stabilization and economic recovery. It is for the Libyans themselves to tackle those challenges and shape their future, but they can be assured that the international community stands ready to support them as they set about the considerable tasks ahead.

The unanimous adoption today of resolution 2009 (2011) will provide the National Transitional Council with the support it needs as it implements its priorities. It establishes a United Nations Mission that will, among other things, provide support to Libyans in preparing for elections so that they can choose their own leaders; assist in institution-building so that they can provide services to their people; help to promote and protect human rights; and support steps towards economic recovery so as to ensure a prosperous and stable future for Libya. By providing a mechanism for progressively de-listing sanctioned entities and unfreezing their assets, the resolution will help to kick-start Libya's economy and encourage economic self-sufficiency.

The bravery and determination of the Libyan people have sent a strong message to repressive regimes everywhere that the legitimate demands and rights of people cannot be ignored. People have basic rights to which they are entitled. People know these rights. They will struggle for them and, eventually, they will win them.

Mr. Churkin (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): The Russian Federation supported resolution 2009 (2011), just adopted, based on our policy of addressing the issue of rebuilding post-war Libya exclusively under the auspices of the United Nations and the Security Council.

The main task of the United Nations mission established today will be to support the transition process in Libya. The establishment of peace in Libya through political and diplomatic channels is an absolute priority. It is important that the resolution reflects the Council's intention to consider, in the near future, the issue of lifting the no-fly zone over Libyan territory, in particular because in a number of cases the zone has been violated arbitrarily. We reiterate that the main purpose of creating the no-fly zone was to protect civilians.

Unfortunately, the Council's mandate for conducting the operation in Libya was disregarded, resulting in air strikes that also targeted civilian facilities and killed civilians. Now, in view of the new realities on the ground and in the air, maintaining the no-fly zone no longer makes sense. The lifting of that ban must be included among the international community's efforts to normalize the situation and address the aftermath of the Libyan crisis.

At this stage, we must also focus on the pressing problems in the human rights sphere. We must carry out a thorough investigation of all facts related to human rights violations during the conflict in Libya. It has become increasingly clear that crimes were committed by all parties to the conflict from its very outset. Evidence has been uncovered of mass murders of detainees, torture, forced disappearances and arbitrary detentions. Of particular concern is the situation faced by nationals of African countries who have suffered wholly unjustified persecution and violence. We expect relevant steps to be taken by the new Libyan authorities. The declaration on creating a new democratic Libya should be backed by real steps by the National Transitional Council confirming its commitment to tolerance and promoting the process of national reconciliation.

Mr. Araud (France) (*spoke in French*): I welcome the vote by the General Assembly this morning which confirmed, by an overwhelming majority, the reintegration of Libya within the United Nations family, which today welcomes the representatives of the new Libya. I would like to welcome Ambassador Dabbashi, whose personal valour is well known.

A historic step has been made to restore Libya to a normalized international status. It is one further step towards the establishment of a democratic Libya, with which France will be proud to associate. It is now up to the Security Council to play its part in contributing to this process, as it has already done in adopting resolutions 1970 (2011) and 1973 (2011). In that context, we have just adopted resolution 2009 (2011), which provides the Libyan people with the instruments necessary to build a better future. The Security Council has also demonstrated its commitment to supporting the legitimate expectations of the Libyan people.

The United Nations Support Mission in Libya will provide the Libyan people with all necessary assistance in order to prepare for elections, draft a constitution and build the institutions of a democratic and free State that respects human rights and the rule of law, as the representatives of the new Libya have pledged to do. It is also our responsibility to restore to the Libyan authorities the economic means for their activities. The gradual unfreezing of assets through a clear and well-organized mechanism will help the Libyan economy recover, thus promoting the reconstruction of the country.

But we must first and foremost congratulate the Libyan people. They have demonstrated magnificent courage and determination. In rising up against oppression, they have manifested their will to defend their right to live in dignity in a free and democratic country. As President of the French Republic Nicolas Sarkozy said yesterday in Tripoli and in Benghazi, we will continue to stand alongside the Libyan people who won peace, freedom and economic progress and, along with our European partners and the Council, we will give them our full support.

Mr. Wittig (Germany): I wish to warmly welcome Ambassador Dabbashi and to congratulate him on today's approval by the General Assembly of his credentials. We fully support resolution 2009 (2011), just adopted. We also highly welcome its unanimous adoption. This sends a strong message of the unity of the Council at this important crossroads in Libya's history. A new era has begun in Libya and is reflected in the resolution adopted today. Most importantly, it is guided by the ownership and

responsibility of the Libyan people. The process of democratic transition was started by the Libyan people and it must remain in the hands of the Libyan people.

By mandating the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, the Council has heeded the call of the Libyan authorities for support and advice in key areas. As agreed by all stakeholders, the United Nations will play the central role in coordinating international support. Germany is ready to contribute actively to this endeavour.

The resolution also marks an important step for Libya's economic recovery. When the asset freeze is lifted and modified, the local economy and trade will be kick-started. However, this is a first step only. It is clear that eventually all economic sanctions on those entities under the control of the Libyan authorities will be lifted.

With today's resolution, the Council also sends a political message. A consultative and inclusive political process will be key for the democratic transition of Libya. The full participation of women in this process should be promoted. Also, national reconciliation and the protection of the human rights of all Libyans and foreign workers are critical. We welcome the Transitional National Council's repeated commitment to that end.

To conclude, much remains to be done, but with today's resolution, the Council has demonstrated its strong will to support the Libyan people on their path to a democratic and prosperous society.

Ms. Rice (United States of America): Through resolution 2009 (2011), the Council has unanimously affirmed its willingness to support the Libyan people in their efforts to restore order and bring about democracy. In this resolution, as well as in the General Assembly's approval earlier today of the Transitional National Council's credentials to represent Libya, we all stand witness to the birth of a new Libya.

The resolution responds directly to the request from the Transitional National Council for international assistance during this period of change. We encourage the United Nations, including through its newly established United Nations Support Mission in Libya, to develop a close and collaborative relationship with Libya's new leaders.

We look forward to the naming of a special representative of the Secretary-General to lead the new Mission, and we are encouraged by the Secretary-General's determination to get United Nations personnel on the ground as soon as possible. We wish to express our profound appreciation for the service of Special Envoy Abdel-Elah Al-Khatib, and we look forward to continued close cooperation with the Special Adviser to coordinate post-conflict planning for Libya, Ian Martin, as he works with the Transitional National Council on transition issues in the days ahead.

The United States particularly welcomes the Council's decision to scale back and modify the sanctions that it imposed on Libya seven months ago in response to Al-Qadhafi's violence against his people. As a result, the Libyan authorities will be able to re-energize the Libyan economy while some measures are kept in place to ensure that previously frozen funds are released in a transparent and responsible way as the situation normalizes and the transition proceeds, and that they are released in the interests of the people of Libya.

In the weeks and months ahead, we hope that the Council, in close consultation with the new Libyan Government, will respond to the situation on the ground by adopting further resolutions to provide support for the Libyan people. As Libya begins this new era, the United States offers our very best wishes to the Libyan people, who suffered for many years under one of the world's most brutal dictatorships. We stand fully ready to assist Libya's citizens in building a new society based on democracy, pluralism and the rule of law.

Mr. Li Baodong (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): Over the past few days, China has repeatedly emphasized that, in addressing the Libyan issue, we must adhere to the following four principles.

First, stability and order should be restored to the country as soon as possible, in the interests of Libya and the international community. Secondly, the aspirations and choices of the Libyan people must be respected. Libya's sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity must be genuinely respected. The future and national affairs of the country should be decided by the Libyans themselves. Thirdly, an inclusive political process should be launched as soon as possible. National reconciliation should be promoted, enabling Libya to embark swiftly on the path of national reconciliation and development. Fourthly, in assisting Libya in its reconstruction, the

United Nations and the Security Council should play a leading role in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.

On the basis of these four principles, China voted in favour of resolution 2009 (2011), just adopted. China will continue to support the Libyan people in their efforts to safeguard national sovereignty, rebuild their country and pursue development.

Mr. Moraes Cabral (Portugal): Allow me to welcome our Libyan colleague to the Council and especially to underline the General Assembly's vote this morning, which allowed for the full reintegration of Libya into our community of nations. Let me also underline the unanimity of the Council in adopting the very important resolution 2009 (2011).

Portugal welcomes the improved situation in Libya and looks forward to a smooth and peaceful transition through a Libyan-led and owned, inclusive and representative process. We also welcome the statements issued by the National Transitional Council expressing its commitment to national reconciliation, human rights, justice and the rule of law.

Over the past six months, we have witnessed significant developments in Libya. Women have played a central role in the historic events that have taken place and continue to take place in the country. It is now fundamental to ensure the equal participation of Libyan women in all aspects of the transition process and their inclusion in national and international decision-making about their country's future and in national reconciliation processes.

We also strongly encourage the Libyan authorities to pursue the active protection of the human rights of their citizens and foreign residents, and to ensure that all serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law are investigated and their perpetrators brought to justice.

Portugal fully supports the guiding principles of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL): national ownership, speed of response and rapid delivery, and effective coordination of international assistance. We also endorse the National Transitional Council's request for the assistance and support of the international community in implementing its plans for the stabilization and rebuilding of the country, according to the priorities it has set out.

With the adoption of resolution 2009 (2011), the conditions have been met for the swift setting up of UNSMIL, thus enabling the United Nations to promptly assist the Libyan authorities in addressing manifold challenges and in meeting the timetable to which they have committed themselves. The establishment of an integrated United Nations support mission for an initial period of three months will allow the new authorities and the United Nations to plan further and more effectively for a longer period, based on a phased approach.

We recall that in several resolutions dealing with women and peace and security, the Security Council has expressed its willingness to incorporate a gender perspective into United Nations missions. Portugal will continue to stress the importance of incorporating this dimension into all political peacekeeping mandates. The positive contribution that women can make to all aspects of post-conflict situations has long been established.

As Libya enters a new chapter of its history, the international community must unite to assist the Libyan people in the tremendous tasks and challenges that lie ahead. We therefore welcome the leading and coordinating role of the United Nations, and in particular the efforts of the Secretary-General in this regard. Portugal stands ready to support the Libyan people on their path to peace and democracy, including in the framework of the Security Council and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) in this new phase, in which funds need to be made available for State-building, economic recovery and urgent humanitarian assistance.

Allow me to say a very heartfelt word of appreciation for the efforts of Mr. Al-Khatib and the valuable role he has played in recent months. I would also like to commend the work of Mr. Ian Martin and his team in preparing for the establishment of UNSMIL, and wish him and all his staff every success in the challenging tasks ahead.

Mr. Barbalić (Bosnia and Herzegovina): We welcome the establishment of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, under the leadership of a special representative of the Secretary-General, for an initial period of three months with a mandate set out in resolution 2009 (2011).

The Libyan people have sought a change in their country, and their legitimate aspirations to a more

democratic society are being realized. This has turned out to be a historic year for the brave people of Libya. Bosnia and Herzegovina believes that resolution 2009 (2011) is an important and necessary element of economic recovery, reconstruction and the normalization of the living conditions in Libya. It is time for Libya to move forward and restore its political and economic life and to promote national reconciliation.

Mr. Osorio (Colombia) (*spoke in Spanish*): In recent months, the Libyan people have made immense sacrifices in order to achieve their aspirations for a democratic Libya whose potential prosperity will benefit all Libyan citizens. A new stage in the history of the country has begun and a reform process launched that is aimed at guaranteeing the rights and meeting the needs of its people, which have for so long been denied them.

Today, when the General Assembly recognized the new representative of Libya and the Security Council has adopted a resolution marking the first step on the return to normalcy, is the time to renew our comprehensive assistance to the Libyan authorities in order to achieve a lasting peace through reconciliation, reconstruction, economic recovery and the onset of all necessary reform to promote the establishment of democracy and development in that country.

That is why, in adopting resolution 2009 (2011) pursuant to the principles and responsibilities enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in full respect and promotion of the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Libya, we fully support the establishment of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, which, under the principle of national ownership, will extend its full cooperation in order to fulfil the priorities established by the Libyan people themselves.

Mr. Sangqu (South Africa): We, too, welcome Ambassador Dabbashi back to the Council.

South Africa reaffirms the African Union's efforts to bring a peaceful end to the Libyan crisis. These efforts have always been informed by and directed towards promoting the genuine and legitimate aspirations of the Libyan people. The African Union remains committed to supporting efforts to bring a peaceful end to the crisis in Libya. The Peace and Security Council ad hoc committee, meeting in Pretoria on 14 September, indicated its readiness to work with the National Transitional Council and all other Libyan stakeholders towards the goal of the early establishment of an all-inclusive national unity Government.

South Africa supports international post-conflict reconstruction, reconciliation and rebuilding efforts to assist the Libyan people in turning over a new leaf after this conflict. Therefore this resolution 2009 (2011) is very important to my delegation, as it will serve as a foundation for all United Nations support to Libya's post-conflict reconstruction. Ownership of these efforts by the Libyan people is critical.

We would like to address three issues that are important to us in the context of the resolution.

First, the situation in Libya has improved, but there is still a long way for the Libyans to go towards achieving peace, security and stability. The immediate challenge is for a peaceful end to the conflict. A complete and verifiable ceasefire, including an end to the NATO military campaign, is a prerequisite for stability. This will enable the Libyan people to focus their efforts on rebuilding and reconstructing their country. South Africa is disappointed that the Council was unable to include a clear call for the cessation of hostilities.

Secondly, the Council has shown reluctance to come out in strong and clear support of the 2.5 million African migrants who comprise part of the Libyan population. These migrants, it must be recalled, contributed for decades to the economic development of Libya. We repeat our call for an end to reprisals, killings, arbitrary arrests and the detention of migrant workers and black Libyans, and further call for those involved in these activities to be held accountable for their actions.

Thirdly, as we have noted that the situation in Libya has shown improvement, we must now question the need for the continued enforcement of the no-fly zone to protect civilians. We cannot understand the Council's support for this enforcement, as we are all aware that the threats that warranted the no-fly zone no longer exist. Therefore, we look forward to the lifting of the no-fly zone as soon as possible.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I shall now make a statement in my capacity as the representative of Lebanon.

Following its forced absence, and now that it has resumed its place in the Arab world, Libya is now resuming its natural place in the United Nations. We welcome Ambassador Dabbashi. The Security Council has shouldered its responsibilities vis-à-vis Libya and its responsibility to protect civilians by various means, including coercive measures. It has also called repeatedly for a ceasefire along with the launching of a political process. The Secretary-General has supported these efforts through the activities of his Special Representative, Mr. Al-Khatib, and his Special Adviser, Mr. Martin.

However, the Al-Qadhafi regime, which had lost all legitimacy, did not respond to the calls of the Security Council. Today, Libya, through the sacrifices of its sons, has new facts on the ground. A new democratic State protecting the rights of all Libyans and their fundamental freedoms is being built. The Security Council has again responded to the needs of Libyans as put forward by their legitimate representatives, the National Transitional Council, by creating a support mission to help the Libyan people fulfil the priorities they set for themselves. In this context, we cannot fail to reaffirm the pivotal role of the United Nations in coordinating international and regional assistance to Libya.

I now resume my functions as President of the Security Council.

I give the floor to the representative of Libya.

Mr. Dabbashi (Libya) (*spoke in Arabic*): Allow me at the outset to express to you, Mr. President, how delighted I am to see a dear brother, a representative of a brotherly State, presiding over the deliberations of the Security Council for this month. Allow me to thank you personally, Sir, all the members of the Lebanese delegation and the brotherly country of Lebanon for all they have given to the Libyan revolution and for having stood shoulder to shoulder with my people in their plight.

Today is undoubtedly a decisive, historic day in the life of the Libyan people. It marks the fall of a dictatorship. An era of terror, denial of freedom and violations of human rights has now come to an end for the Libyan people. The fact that the National Transitional Council has today assumed Libya's seat in the United Nations indicates that a new page has been turned in the history of the Libyan people — a page marked by the blood of Libya's sons.

The Libyan people have paid a high price. Many of our sons have died. However, the sacrifice was fully justified by the objective. Although we express our sadness at having lost more than 30,000 martyrs, while tens of thousands have been injured and hundreds maimed, we can now truly say that their blood did not flow in vain. The Libyan people today have the right to celebrate their victory against the tyrant Al-Qadhafi and his supporters on Libya's sacred land. They can celebrate the fact that we now occupy Libya's seat in the United Nations. We can celebrate that Libya's original name, which was distorted by Al-Qadhafi for over four decades, has been restored. He distorted it as a name and he distorted it in fact. We look forward to ensuring the necessary arrangements with the concerned departments at the United Nations to raise the flag of independence — the flag of the Libyan people's revolution — at the Headquarters of this Organization.

On this occasion, let me pay tribute to all those — be they States, organizations or media outlets — that stood shoulder to shoulder with the Libyan people militarily, politically or morally. Above all, I wish to stress the important role played by the United Nations, as represented by the Security Council and the Secretary-General. For the very first time, we witnessed in Libya the operationalization of the responsibility to protect, which was carried out in a reasonable manner, saving the lives of thousands of Libyans and maintaining the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Libya. This would never have taken place had not all members of the Security Council fully understood the situation and agreed to adopt resolutions 1970 (2011) and 1973 (2011).

Resolution 2009 (2011), which the Council has just adopted, is still further proof of the ability of the members of the Council to work in unity to maintain peace and defend human rights despite disagreements. It also illustrates the ongoing support of the United Nations for the Libyan people in their current plight. The resolution is undoubtedly an important step towards stability, the normalization of the situation in Libya and the launching of reconstruction and development efforts.

On behalf of the National Transitional Council, allow me to express our gratitude to every member of the Security Council for taking this important step. We look forward to the United Nations Mission in Libya beginning its work soon under Mr. Martin's leadership,

so as to provide support and assistance to the transitional Government on the basis of the principle of national ownership of the process of stabilization, reconstruction and economic recovery.

The challenges facing the transitional Government are indeed great and multifaceted. We seek to build a new State. We look forward to building democratic institutions that respect human rights and fundamental freedoms and provide an opportunity for every Libyan to contribute in the service of their country to the limit of their abilities, without marginalization, exclusion or discrimination vis-à-vis any group for any reason whatever. We continue to require everyone's assistance in reaching those goals. We hope that everyone will respect the choices made by the Libyan people and not interfere in their affairs during this delicate period. I am confident that everyone will do so.

Let me emphasize that as the new authority in Libya we will abide by Libya's previous commitments. We will promote current partnerships based on mutual respect and common interests. We will not forget our African brothers, who need us as much as we need them. We will look to the future. We will not allow any event to take us backwards. We will cooperate with all for international peace and security. We hope that all States will assist us in ensuring justice and prosecuting those responsible for crimes perpetrated under the Al-Qadhafi regime.

The Libyan people are a peace-loving people. We are a tolerant people who merely want to exploit their wealth for progress and well-being. Libya will be a country of laws. The new authorities will allow no one to take the law into their own hands or to seek revenge. I have no doubt that the Libyan people are fully capable of achieving their aspirations, with the support of the international community. The Libyan delegation looks forward to cooperating with all delegations of the Organization, in the interests of us all.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 4.40 p.m.